

Indian troops set to crush Tigers

BATTICALOA, Feb 10, (Reuters): Indian troop reinforcements are being airlifted into eastern Sri Lanka for an all-out assault on Tamil separatist rebels.

Security sources said today that about 20,000 Indian soldiers from the 55,000 posted to the island were expected to be deployed for the operation.

A rebel spokesman estimated there were about 35,000 Indian soldiers in Batticaloa in some 100 camps.

In New Delhi an Indian External Affairs Ministry spokesman said: "We have built up and reinforced our forces in the East because the resistance is continuing there."

Movement
He declined to say when the operation would begin but added: "We will clean it up by April. We aim to return the Eastern region to normalcy by then."

The guerrilla Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) have rejected a peace pact between India and Sri Lanka aimed at ending the five-year rebellion and setting up semi-autonomous provincial councils.

Residents of Batticaloa said

today that a large number of troops were flown in on Tuesday by helicopter.

"For the past 10 days there have been planes flying in and out and troops moving about in trucks," said a prominent Tamil businessman.

Despite the presence of the soldiers, Tiger members moved freely around Batticaloa, a town of 46,000 people.

The rebels' district political commander, a 22-year-old called Siththa, told reporters: "It's very difficult for the Indian peace-keeping force to catch us. They don't know us and we can move around comfortably."

He and three aides carried no weapons but wore cyanide capsules around their neck, in case of capture.

"What we expect the Indian soldiers to do is to cordon off certain areas and conduct search operations for about 10 days, starve the people within those areas, and finally demand the people to show where the LTTE is," Siththa said.

"They will hold the people there until the LTTE is exposed. The people won't get food."

Palestinians protest abduction of UN workers

Gunmen kidnap girl in W. Beirut for ransom

BEIRUT, Feb 10, (AP): Gunmen kidnapped today the daughter of a wealthy businessman living in West Beirut, and Palestinian refugees in south Lebanon staged a strike to protest the abduction last week of two Scandinavian UN relief workers.

A police spokesman said Roula Freij, 16, was being driven to school this morning when the car she was riding in was intercepted by two gunmen off the busy Hamra commercial thoroughfare.

The gunmen dragged Miss Freij out of her family's chauffeur-driven car, forced her into their green Mercedes-Benz automobile and sped away, said the spokesman.

Strike
"We believe this is a kidnapping for ransom," he added.

Miss Freij is the daughter of Atallah Freij, a wealthy businessman who owns a chain of men's clothes shops named after the family.

Sons of prominent Christian

and Muslim families have been kidnapped in the past and let go for ransom. This was the first time that a girl has been selected for abduction.

In south Lebanon, Palestinian refugees went on strike at five camps to protest the kidnapping of Jan Stening, 44, a Swede, and William Jorgensen, 58, a Norwegian.

Schools and shops were also closed in Ein El-Hilweh and Mich Mieh in Sidon, and Tyre's Rashidiyeh, El Buss and Bour El Shimali shantytowns.

The women employees of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, which cares for Palestinian refugees, were kidnapped near Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut, on Friday.

Unrwa blamed the abduction on "Palestinian individuals acting without a political motive," and Yasser Arafat's Palestine Liberation Organisation has vowed to secure their release.

A Lebanese leftist militia

source said Tuesday the captors were demanding "guarantees" that they would not be harmed once the captives are freed.

Arafat "insists on the unconditional release of the two captives," said the source.

Per Olof Hallqvist, Unrwa's Lebanon director, was in Sidon to follow up on efforts to obtain the release of his two employees.

Negotiations
Norwegian Charge d'Affaires Peter Raeder said today negotiations to free two Scandinavian UN relief workers have stalled, dimming hopes for their early release.

"There seems to have been a break in the negotiations. We hope that this is a temporary break and that the parties involved will get together and restart negotiations," Raeder told reporters in West Beirut.

Raeder, who arrived from his Damascus base on Saturday, was referring to talks between Palestinian officials and Mustapha Saad, the head of the Popular



PLO fighters in a state of alert on hills overlooking Ein El-Hilweh camp to secure release of Unrwa workers. (Reuters wirephoto)

Liberation Army (PLA) which controls Sidon.

He said he hoped the deadlock would not delay the release of Stening and Jorgensen.

Lebanese Muslim militia sources said Palestinian officials had failed to keep promises they made to Saad to release the two at his house at dawn on Tuesday, prompting Saad to halt his mediation efforts.

Reasons
Unrwa, Saad and Palestinian officials refused to reveal the reasons for the deadlock, which coincided with a general strike observed by Palestinians at the refugee camps near Sidon.

Bearded Palestinian commandos, clad in olive-green military fatigues and brandishing rocket launchers and automatic rifles, manned checkpoints and patrolled streets in the sprawling camps.

A security source said fighters of the mainstream Al-Fatah group loyal to Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman Yasser Arafat searched some houses at Ein El Hilweh.

No Palestinian faction has claimed responsibility for the abduction. Residents of the camps have denounced the kidnappings, which Unrwa has said threatens its assistance for some 280,000 Palestinian refugees in Lebanon.

Arabs urged to formulate new military strategy

ABU DHABI, Feb 10, (Reuters): A prominent Egyptian strategist wants Arab states to formulate a new military strategy to defend their national security.

"We, the Arabs, have to be prepared to encounter developments which might face us in the next few years," Field Marshal Abdul Ghani Al Gamasi, Egypt's former Defence Minister, said in a lecture last night.

To achieve this goal, all Arab states should be united in a new strategy with a clear and defined objective which is safeguarding national security.

Gamasi, 67, said Israel was a stronger military power than the combined Arab states.

"This should prompt the Arabs to strengthen their military power, not in men but in firepower and combat capability I think realising this goal would not only achieve strategic balance with Israel, but also could give us an edge," he said.

"But that does not mean that the Arab world should become a military camp. Power should be used to support the political factor."

Gamasi, second in command of the Egyptian armed forces during the 1973 Arab-Israeli war, said a political solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict should be brought about through an international conference.

"But what if the conference failed I would say the conflict will persist and other alternatives are available," he said.

Gamasi said he hoped the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories would continue and escalate.

Asked later how the uprising should be supported, he said "help should primarily come from the Palestinian themselves I propose that Palestinian fighters outside the occupied areas move in to back the uprising since the land is theirs and they know its nature better."

Gamasi said Iran and Iraq had achieved a strategic balance so that neither could win the Gulf war through military means.

"Iraq is superior in the air but this is counter-balanced by Iran's superiority in troop number and morale, ground-to-ground missiles and Navy," he said.

Hong Kong rules out reform

HONG KONG, Feb 10, (Reuters): The Hong Kong government today ruled out any major political changes before 1991, a decision certain to trigger strong protests from pressure groups wanting direct elections to the colony's Legislative Council.

The colonial government said in a white paper published today that it recognised the need for directly elected members but would not introduce elections until 1991.

Hong Kong reverts to Chinese sovereignty in 1997.

The white paper proposed that 10 of the 56 legislative council

members would be directly elected from new constituencies scattered throughout Hong Kong island, Kowloon and the new territories.

At present, the Legislative Council is a consultative body with no veto power that debates policies decided by senior government officers and a handful of influential Hong Kong citizens.

Introducing the white paper, chief secretary Sir David Ford said: "One message has come through loud and clear: the people of Hong Kong want more representative government."

S. Korea improves human rights

WASHINGTON, Feb 10, (AP): The US State Department today described South Korea's sweeping 1987 political changes as major steps toward democracy that open the way for significant developments in human rights.

But torture and other police abuses, especially in political cases, remained "a pervasive and ingrained problem," said Richard Shifter, Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights, in the 1,358-page annual report on human rights practices for 1987 covering 169 countries and territories.

Under US law, the State Department prepares the reports annually as a foreign policy guide to lawmakers.

The 15-page section on south Korea indicated that many 1987 abuses occurred early in the year and in some cases helped trigger the nationwide public protest that prompted announcements at mid-year of "far-reaching democratic reforms" by President Chun Doo-Hwan and his choice as successor, Roh Tae-Woo.

Philippines
The Philippines has serious human rights abuses caused by communist-led insurgents and other armed bands, vigilantes and political assassins who often escape punishment, the report said.

These groups are to blame for hundreds of murders, kidnappings and other such offences the past year, the State Department said.

President Corazon Aquino

and her government "have been especially committed to improving observance of human rights," even introducing human rights instruction into the school curriculum at all levels, the report said.

The insurgency, "active in most of the country's 73 provinces, continues to pose the major long-term challenge to democratic practices and the restoration of respect for human rights in the Philippines," it said.

The insurgency has in turn spawned anti-communist citizen groups also criticised for rights abuses, it added.

China
Both China and Taiwan witnessed some improvements in human and political rights last year, with a dramatic change in Taiwan, the report said.

With the Chinese Communist Party continuing in power on the mainland, "the human rights situation in China in 1987 was characterised by some improvements, especially related to the economic reform programme, but also by setbacks which served to clarify the limits to liberalisation in this authoritarian society," said the report.

"Freedoms of speech, press, religion and other basic human rights continue to be strictly circumscribed," it said.

Suharto changes military leadership

JAKARTA, Feb 10, (Reuters): Indonesia announced changes in its top military leadership today ahead of the expected reappointment of President Suharto for a fifth term as leader of South-East Asia's largest nation.

General Benny Murdani, effectively the most powerful man in Indonesia after Suharto, told reporters he would step down next month after five years as commander of the Indonesian armed forces.

Murdani, a 55-year-old former intelligence chief who masterminded the stunning victory of the country's 480,000-strong military and police force, said he would be succeeded by Army Chief-of-Staff General Try Sutrisno.

Sutrisno, 52-year-old former commander of the important Jakarta Garrison who served for four years as Suharto's aide de camp, has been groomed to take over from Murdani, and has been tipped as a future president.

Suharto's military-backed new order government has ruled the nation of 172 million people for the past 22 years, but so far the president has not named a successor.

Sutrisno's number two, General Eddy Sudrajat, will take over command of the Army, Murdani said after a meeting with the 66-year-old president.

The changes in the top military command precede the expected reappointment on March 10 of Suharto to a fifth five-year term as leader of the world's largest Muslim nation by a special session of the People's Consultative Assembly, or upper house of parliament.

Aquino turns down power-sharing offer

Rebels must lay down arms

MANILA, Feb 10, (AP): President Corazon Aquino said today that communist rebels should lay down their arms and run for public office if they want to share power.

Mrs Aquino made the comment following reports that the rebels had called on the government to accept power-sharing to spare the country an all-out civil war.

"My comment is they should run in the elections and if people elect them, then that is the time they should share power," Mrs Aquino told reporters.

Filipino reporters said the rebel offer was made Monday during a broadcast by a clandestine radio station which was monitored in the southern Philippines.

During the broadcast, two commentators identified as Rafael Rojo and Ligaya Magtanggol urged Mrs Aquino to

accept "collective leadership" and said the rebels were ready "to join the mainstream and share power through a coalition government."

The government rejected a power-sharing formula with the rebel National Democratic Front during peace talks, which broke down in January 1987.

Killing
Leftist candidates fared poorly in congressional elections last May and in regional balloting in January. No other national elections are scheduled until the end of Mrs Aquino's term in 1992.

In related developments, the military today said at least four people were killed and four others injured, including a town mayor, during a series of insurgency-related incidents since Monday.

In Manila, authorities filed

rebellion and weapons charges against three more reputed leaders of the outlawed Communist Party of the Philippines.

The three, the Rev Rustico Tan, Regina Reyes and Lennie Galicia, were among some 20 alleged rebel leaders captured last week in a series of raids in the Manila area.

The detainees are being held in a military camp in suburban Quezon city, and the charges were filed with the Quezon city prosecutor's office.

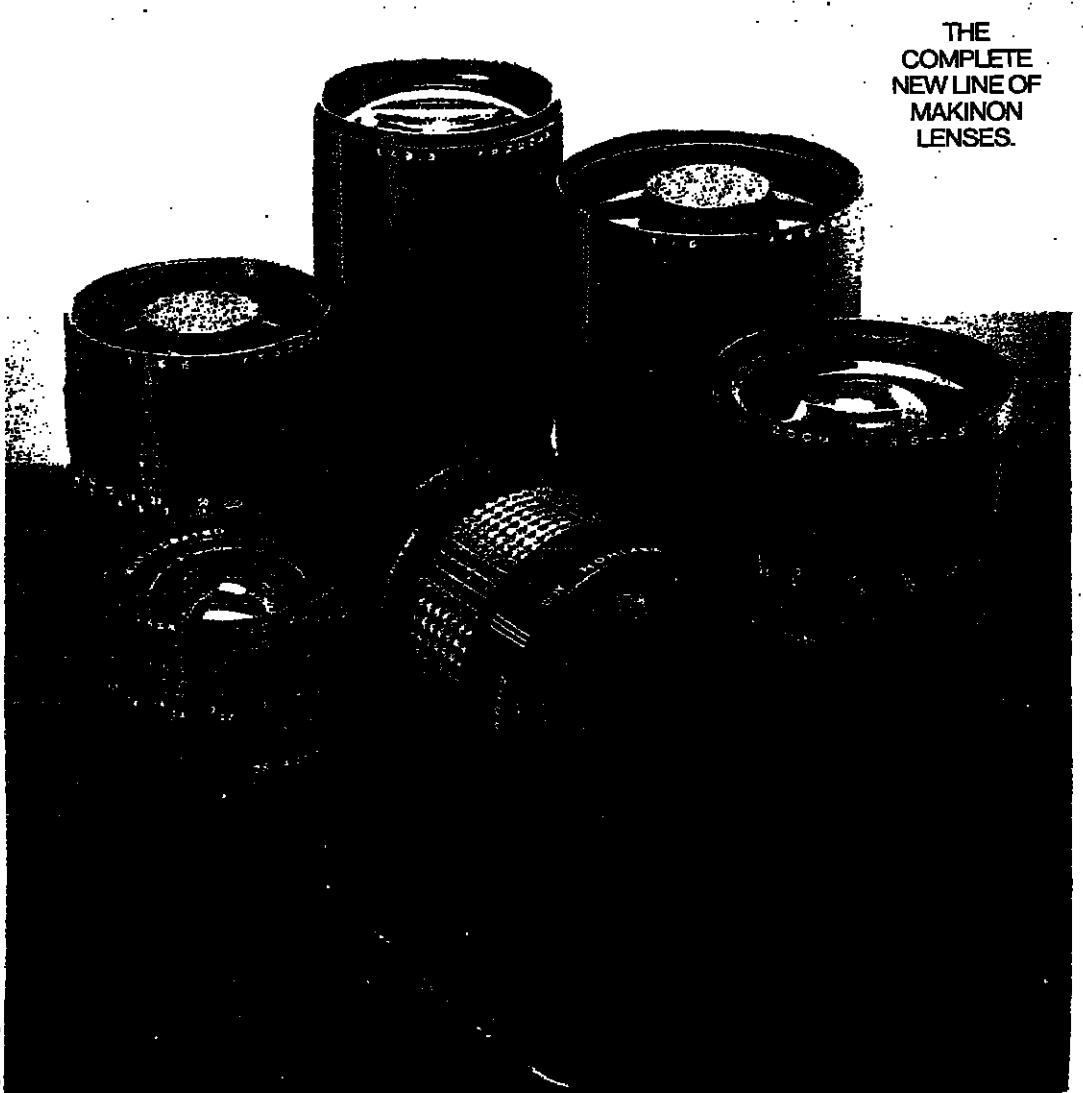
Authorities earlier filed similar charges against 15 of those arrested in the raids, released five for lack of evidence and said they planned to charge an undetermined number of others.

Aquino, meanwhile, called a meeting of security officials at her Malacanang Palace office to discuss measures to curb communist activities in the capital.

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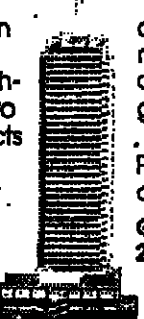
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Call for a private university in Kuwait

HAVING a private university in Kuwait will solve the problems facing many parents who are very worried about the future education of their children after graduation from high school because higher education has become an economic necessity in these times, according to a local newspaper.

A private university would create honest competition for Kuwait University and would help to cover some specialities needed to meet development plans in the country.

A number of students unable to join a college expressed their views to a local newspaper.

Chance

One of them Inas Mohammed, who graduated from high school in the science branch, said she was studying commerce as an independent student at Cairo University. She said she did not obtain sufficient marks for admission to Kuwait University. She said it was not easy for her to be away from her family and face a different society.

She said having a private university in Kuwait was a great idea and would give students a chance to complete their college education while remaining with their family and friends.

She said that establishing a private university would require a long time and people might have the mistaken idea that a private university would admit students with low grades.

Majdi Shaqar graduated from high school in 1985 and then went to Yugoslavia where he spent a whole year at a language school and another year at the marine academy. He said he could not stay in Yugoslavia because there was a big difference in traditions and many times he wished he was a student at Kuwait University and close to his family. He returned from Yugoslavia because of complications over residency.

He said he did not have a clear picture of his future at present.

He said that many countries had several private universities to give more chances for students to attend college.

Ayman Nahas, graduated from high school in 1986. He said he was a student at the Kuwait Computer Centre because his marks were not enough for him to complete his college education in Kuwait.

He tried to obtain a visit visa to Britain but his application was refused. He wanted a college education and was currently trying for a student visa to Canada.

He said that a private university in Kuwait would help students who were financially unable to attend foreign universities.

Higher Planning Council meets

HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah yesterday presided over the 8th meeting for the Higher Planning Council.

The meeting was attended by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed and members of the council.

Secretary-general of the council Fuad Abdul Rahman Mulla Hussein told Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) that the council has discussed minutes on agenda and adopted appropriate resolutions concerning them.

He added that the council has approved the framework proposed by the economic committee according to which the drafts of state budget will be discussed and presented to the Council of Ministers so as to be referred to the Planning Ministry.

Briefed

Hussein added that the council has emphasised the importance of commitment to preparing annual plans.

Hussein further said that the council was briefed on the report of the secretariat of the Higher Council for Planning on the session in which the development plan and following up of its implementation were discussed.

He said that the council lauded the report and decided to refer recommendations in that report to the Ministry of Planning to follow them up.

He also said that the secretary-general of the council briefed the meeting on the activities of the council over a period of six months between June 9 December 23 last year.

Discussions also dealt with political and financial affairs in Kuwait, Hussein said, adding that the next meeting will be held late next month.

Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi, Minister of Planning, held a reception in honour of his predecessor Mohammed



Mohammed Suleiman Sayed Ali with a commemorative gift presented to him by his successor.



Dr Al Awadi embracing Suleiman Sayed Ali.

Omani minister in London talks

LONDON, Feb 10, (KUNA): Oman's Minister of State for Defence Sayyid Hamoud Al Busaidi resumed his talks here today in two separate meetings with British ministers.

British State Minister for Foreign Office Lord Glenaith hosted a working lunch in honour of Al Busaidi this afternoon and later the Omani minister met Foreign Office Minister David Mellor.

The Foreign Office pointed out that the discussions covered the Iran-Iraq war and the international action designed to bring it to an early end.

But the Foreign Office stressed that today's meetings were purely by the way of courtesy.

Al Busaidi's main talks were held with British Defence Secretary George Younger covering matters of mutual defence interest and military cooperation between the two countries.

The Omani minister, who is currently on a three-day official visit to Britain, met Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe for similar talks.

Bishara in Qatar

DOHA, Feb 10, (KUNA): The Amir of Qatar Sheikh Khalifa Bin Hamad Al Thani today received visiting Secretary-General of GCC Yacoub Bishara.

Qatar News Agency said that Sheikh Khalifa and Bishara discussed issues of GCC states, implementation of decisions issued by the 8th session of the GCC summit held in Riyadh last December in addition to the situation in the region.

Bishara listened to Sheikh Khalifa's directions on ways of promoting the joint Gulf activities and implementing proposals of Gulf senior officials.



HH the Amir yesterday received Egypt's State Minister for Scientific Research, Dr Adel Ezz. The meeting was attended by Kuwait's Education Minister and acting Higher Education Minister, Anwar Al Nouri (left).

Egyptian minister tours university

EGYPTIAN Minister of State for Scientific Research Adel Abdel Hamid Ezz, who arrived in Kuwait on Tuesday on a four-day official visit, yesterday toured Kuwait University accompanied by the Minister of Education and acting Minister of Higher Education, Anwar Abdulrahman Al Nouri.

During his tour, the Egyptian minister and the accompanying delegation met with the Kuwait University Rector Abdul Mohsen Al Abdul Razzak and top officials at the university where they exchanged views on bilateral cooperation in the field of scientific research.

Experts

At the end of his tour, the Egyptian official exchanged with the Kuwaiti Education Minister and the university rector souvenir gifts on the occasion of his visit to the country.

Meanwhile, Egyptian Minister of Interior Major General Zaki Badr yesterday said Egyptian expatriates need great care than those inside Egypt, and admitted difficulty of terminating extremist groups with ordinary security measures.

In an interview with Al-Seyasah, Badr said Egyptians harbinger great affection to Kuwait, noting that "a large Egyptian community live in Kuwait." He added the Egyptian expatriates have never been a source of security troubles.

The minister stressed that Kuwait's internal security is part of Egypt's, noting that Cairo is ready to provide Kuwait with expertise and potentials.

In response to a question, he asserted that extremism, whether to the left or right, is the most dangerous threat to Egypt's internal security.

The minister called for collective efforts among social, religious and economic activists to wipe out the fanatics, whom he said could not be dealt with via ordinary security measures.

Badr charged foreign powers, which he did not identify, of supporting the extremist groups in Egypt, he did not elaborate, however.

Mubarak receives Amir's message

CAIRO, Feb. 10, (KUNA): President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt today received a message from HH the Amir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed, contents of which were not revealed.

Kuwaiti Minister of Interior Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, who is currently in Egypt to take part in a seminar on contemporary Arab security issues, delivered the message during his meeting with President Mubarak here today.

Kuwaiti Ambassador to Cairo Abdel Razzaq Al Kandari was present.

Sheikh Salem met with a number of visiting Arab Gulf interior ministers here and attended yesterday the first session of the scientific seminar on contemporary security questions, held on the occasion of Egyptian Police Day.

Security

Sheikh Salem received Bahraini, Qatari and Omani interior ministers and discussed current security issues. He is scheduled to attend a luncheon banquet this afternoon hosted by Kuwaiti Ambassador to Egypt Abdul Razak Al Kandari, including a number of Egyptian ministers and Arab officials participating in the seminar.

Sheikh Salem arrived here yesterday carrying two messages from HH the Amir of Kuwait, to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and from HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah to Egypt's Prime Minister Ataf Sidki.

Sheikh Salem has also participated in the opening session of the seminar which was officially inaugurated by President Mubarak and attended by a large number of Egyptian ministers and officials as well as Arab interior ministers.

Qatari Interior Minister Khalid Bin Hamad Al Thani today arrived here on a four-day visit to participate in the Egyptian Police Day and to attend the scientific seminar on modern security issues which will start on Thursday.

Upon his arrival, Khalid told reporters that his visit will be a good opportunity to discuss and exchange ideas with the Egyptian officials on bilateral cooperation and particularly in the security field.

The Qatari official was received on arrival by the Egyptian Interior Minister Zaki Badr.

Four new orphanages opened in Malawi

AHMAD Al Bahar of the African Muslims Committee in Kuwait has said that the charity has opened four new orphanages in Malawi and three others in Kenya. He said that the charity sponsors 4,500 orphans throughout Africa. The committee has opened a number of schools and mosques as well as two Islamic centres in Malawi.

So far fifty people in Malawi had embraced Islam and the committee had prepared a special programme to give them religious teaching and instruction. The committee is starting a project to provide 38 health centres in Malawi to provide free health care and medicine to people of all creeds.

Al Bahar also announced that the charity has sent quantities of foodstuffs to starving Muslims in the Sudan to the value of KD10,000.

The charity recently began using a computer to coordinate its activities. Recently it has signed an agreement with Morocco covering the supply of teachers of Islam and Arabic, doctors and engineers to work for the committee among African Muslims.

More teachers needed

RASHEED Al Hamad, Assistant Undersecretary responsible for planning and development at the Ministry of Education has said that Kuwaiti graduates are reluctant to become teachers. He said there were several economic and social reasons for this reluctance but the main ones were the low status given to teaching and the low salaries they received in comparison to other sectors of the economy.

Al Hamad explained that there are 27,500 school teachers in the Ministry of Education of whom 41.5 per cent are Kuwaitis.

In kindergartens 84 per cent of the teachers are Kuwaitis, but this figure drops to 71 per cent for primary school teachers, 29 per cent for intermediate schools and only 17 per cent for secondary schools.

Mr Al Hamad said that his ministry has taken several steps to try and attract Kuwaiti graduates into the profession. New information programmes to change the social status of the profession have been inaugurated and also salaries and allowances of Kuwaiti teachers have been increased.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri cables

HH the Amir yesterday received a cable from the Arab Economist Association general secretary Thamer Ruzoqi on the occasion of ending the work of the association's tenth conference held in Kuwait recently.

The cable included gratitude to the Amir's patronage of the conference as well as to the Kuwaiti government and people for their hospitality.

The Amir received a cable from president of the World Islamic Charity Organisation Youssef Al Hajj on the occasion of ending the third meeting of the organisation's board of directors.

The cable included thanks to the Amir for supporting the organisation.

The Amir has sent reply cables thanking them.

Cable of condolences

HH the Amir yesterday sent a cable of condolences to King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia on the passing away of Prince Abdul Mohsen Bin Abdullah Bin Jalawi following a heart attack.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Call for effective action

A KUWAITI daily yesterday warned against plots aborting the popular uprising in the occupied territories and called for effective action to find a settlement to the Palestinian cause.

Al Rai Al Aom warned against the plots trying to abort the popular uprising, noting that "continuation of the revolt will change all the concepts," and that bring new unexpected changes in the area.

The daily alerted that there are already attempts by more than one party through shaky political initiatives to weaken the upheaval and prevent the stone throwers to fight for the Palestinian cause.

The paper asserted that the words and the condemnation statements "are useless" because the Palestinian tragedy is bigger than being solved by a tour made by US envoy Richard Murphy or Philip Habib.

GULF PRESS

Threats reflect Israel's fears

A UNITED Arab Emirates newspaper yesterday scoffed at renewed Israeli threats to use force to quell the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

Such threats are not new, the Abu Dhabi-based Al Itihad said in its commentary on more than two months of protests in which at least 50 Palestinians have been shot dead by Israeli troops.

It said the threats have two implications. "They reflect Israel's fear of Palestinian warnings to deploy weapons in their demonstrations and a desire to kill more Palestinians under the excuse of being forced to do so."

It said there is no surprise in those Israeli allegations.

"That is the permanent logic of Israel — it has always been the forerunner in striking and the forerunner in crying and complaining," it said.

"But we hope that the world public opinion has come to realise Israel's lies after it witnessed Zionist repression against the Palestinians."

The paper indicated that the uprising would soon turn into an armed revolt.

"The uprising will not remain a stone-throwing protest while more Palestinians are falling from Israeli gunfire ... the Palestinians will soon resort to arms because there is no other alternative to defend themselves," it said.

Another daily urged the Arabs to adopt a joint stand against the United States for its unlimited support of Israel.

"Arabs should now deal with the US in a language not less powerful than the Palestinian uprising itself," Al Wahda said.

"The uprising should be a groundwork for any Arab action as it proved to the whole world that separate peace deals will never pass."

Iran urged to respond to peace efforts

A UAE English language daily in its editorial urged the Iranian leadership to respond to peace efforts saying Iran could not achieve the professed aims of its revolution without an end to the Gulf war.

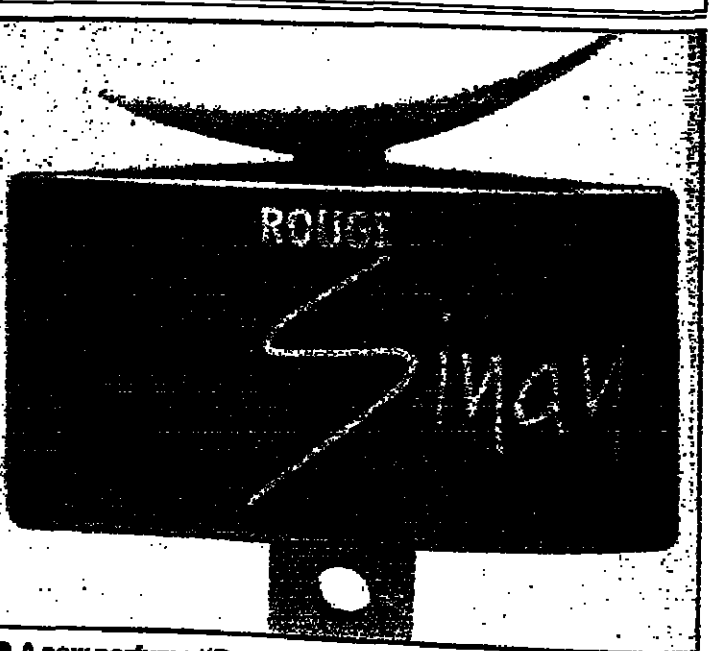
The Dubai-based Khaleej Times said "because of the long-running conflict with Iraq, which has tended to overshadow all other critical issues Iran's dilemma of reconciling political imperatives with ideological perceptions remains."

The paper said removal of legislative bottlenecks alone "will not be enough to honour the government's declared commitment to help the poor, achieve self-sufficiency and develop rural areas."

The Iraq-Iran war, it noted "is continually sapping precious human and material resources."

"The Iranian leadership must realise that its obstructionist attitude has kept it from devoting resources to tackling the people's basic problems and ensured that Iran's entire economy remains geared to war ... rather than to the growing of more food or creating new employment opportunities for its young men and women."

The paper said Iranian leader "Ayatollah Khomeini should use his influence to induce a national consensus on an early ceasefire under UN resolution 598."



A new perfume "Rouge Sinan" has been created by Jean Marc Sinan. It is a subtle blend of rose, jasmine, lily of the valley and orange flowers on a base of vanilla and amber capped with a diamond-studded crescent moon and star in remembrance of his grandfather, the grand master of Ottoman art, Building Company.

High-table



Table Talk

BY DINAH

WITH the exception of a visiting Scottish comedian who once described the Kuwait Towers as "the biggest cruet in the world," there can be few visitors to Kuwait who have not been awestruck by their first sight of the futuristic symbol of this new city. From the ground or from out at sea the Towers are an inspiring space-age image, especially when illuminated at night. They, in turn, offer a breathtaking panoramic view of the city, coast and sea from either the observation platform, restaurant or cafe at the top of the largest tower. Certainly one shouldn't leave Kuwait without enjoying the spectacular view while eating a snack in Le Cafe or a meal in the Horizon restaurant.

From 12.30 pm the Horizon restaurant offers a three course lunch buffet. If you get there early you can be sure of a window seat, but every table in the restaurant has a good view. As everyone is busy gazing out over the city while they eat, the decor is of secondary importance, but it is nevertheless tastefully done in dusky shades of pink and blue. The black, domed, speckled ceiling creates a planetarium-like atmosphere and the buffet table is arranged around a reassuringly massive central pillar.

The range and quality of the salad buffet certainly equals that of some of the top restaurants in Kuwait. Everything was beautifully fresh and tasty. In addition to all the usual mezze and salads, there were some original creations such as a "delicious salad" of potatoes, green, chicken, pineapple and red peppers or a goat's cheese salad topped with zatar and anchovies. There were also delicacies such as creamed avocado, smoked salmon and Gulf prawns as well as a tasty

lentil and rice salad with a crunchy onion topping. Hot Khubz was served at the table. By contrast the hot dishes were a complete disappointment. All of them had the appearance, consistency and flavour of food that had been prepared many hours before and reheated. Most of the dishes we tried were lukewarm, which was not improved by the fact that the plates were unheated. The mixed grill consisted of leathery pieces of meat or you could try a long-dead beef casserole. The hamour in saffron sauce did not live up to its name, being bland, floury and stone-cold. There was an okra and meat stew which was quite tasty, but contained indigestible, hard, broad beans. The khounzi and fragrant biryani were the best of the hot dishes but, surprisingly, no Dukkous (tomato sauce) was available — when we inquired we were offered ketchup or tabasco!

Fortunately the desserts were of a much higher standard, the only exception being a very dry ginger cake. The rest of the gateway were moist and fresh, there was an excellent cheese cake and a strawberry conffection with the texture of clouds. There was a wide range of traditional Arabic desserts as well as profiteroles and choux pastry filled with coffee cream.

The staff at the Towers are very helpful but there are too few people actually waiting at tables, whereas the management seem to think it necessary to employ two hostesses to show you to your table, in addition to a head waiter to ask you if you're enjoying your meal!

The cost of the basic buffet is KD5 per head, but beware of extras such as soft drinks, water and coffee, which are all charged as extras. Our total bill came to KD12.600, which is expensive compared with other buffets around Kuwait where the hot dishes are at least edible. However, it's certainly worth eating at the Towers for the view alone and the salads and desserts do provide a satisfying meal.

RESTAURANT: The Kuwait Towers Horizon Restaurant. **MEALS:** Three course lunch buffet. **PRICE:** KD12.600 (for two). **STAR RATING:** (out of five): **FOOD:** ★★ **SERVICE:** ★★ **ATMOSPHERE:** ★★ **VALUE FOR MONEY:** ★★

PRAYERS

Fajr	5.10 am
Zuhr	12.02
Asr	3.11 pm
Maghreb	5.34
Isha	6.53

FRIDAY

Fajr	5.09 am
Friday Prayer	12.02
Asr	3.12 pm
Maghreb	5.35
Isha	6.53

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Al Nimr Wal Unsa (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim

Al Sahiyya
The Living Daylights
Starring: Timothy Dalton

Al Hamra
My Science Project
Starring: John Stockwell, Daniel Van Zirik

Drive-In
Al Nimr Wal Unsa (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim

Al Firdous
Mard Ki Zaban (Hindi)
Starring: Dhamendra, Poonam Dhillon

Fahabheel Open-Air
Param Dharam (Hindi)
Starring: Mithun Chakraborty

Al Fahabheel
Siddhartha (Bengali)

Al Jahra
Ya Sadiqi Kam Tasawi (Arabic)
Granada
Alligator

Sulabikhat
Eruthubadam (Malayalam)
Al Jleeb
Ek Duj Ke Liye (Hindi)
Starring: Rati Agnihotri, Kamal Haasan

Ahmadi Drive-In
Uroos Min Damishq (Arabic)

FRIDAY
Al Fahabheel
Naag Purnima (Bengali)

Al Jahra
When Strangers Call

Granada
Mirch Masala (Hindi)
Starring: Smita Patil, Naseeruddin Shah

Sulabikhat
Superman vs Amazons

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Shariya Pharmacy
Mawassalat Bldg., Hilali St.
Al Loola Pharmacy
nr. Dasman Complex,
Ahmad Al Jaber St.

Hawalli and Nagra
Al Haditha Pharmacy
Othman Complex, Bin Khalid St.

Salmiya and Rumaitiya
Ibn Nafes Pharmacy
Hmoud Khalifa Bldg., Ahmad Al Mubarak St.

Fahabheel and Ahmadi
Al Burjan Pharmacy
Souk Sabah, F'heel

Jleeb Al Shiyookh
Al Ayoub Pharmacy
Shuwaikh Commercial Centre, Main St.

Jahra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
Opp. Cooperative Society

FRIDAY

Kuwait
Al Ameen Pharmacy
Bebbehani Complex, Jaber Al Mubarak St., Sharq
Ibn Hayan Pharmacy
Mubarak Al Kabir St.

Hawalli and Nagra
Al Qatari Pharmacy
Beirut St., Nagra

Salmiya and Rumaitiya
Sahara Pharmacy
Salem Al Mubarak St.

Old Khaitan
Al Ahram Pharmacy
Sulaiman Saleh Al Rahmani Bldg., Block 2

Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
Abdul Aziz Nasrullah Bldg. Matafi St.

Fahabheel and Ahmadi
Al Bastoor Pharmacy
Qais Al Ghanim Bldg., Dabous St.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV-1

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.15 Cartoons
- 10.00 Fi Rihab Tarbiya: an educational programme presented by Jassim Al Ghareeb.
- 11.00 Songs
- 11.30 Islam Wal Insaan: religious programme, hosted by Dr Abdul Suboor Al Shahn.
- 12.00 Ma Da'a Wa Anham: "Min Akhbar: Jahan": Arabic serial, part 5, starring: Sheza Salem, Khalil Rifai, Mohammad Hussain Abdul Rahim.
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.20 World News via Satellite
- 2.00 Liqa Al Khamis: roundup of local events.
- 3.30 Ibtal Al Mu'Laeb: cartoons
- 4.00 News Summary
- 4.15 The Saint: Roger Moore plays the debonair detective, Simon Templar.
- 5.25 Maktabat Ala Wa Hina: children's programme
- 6.00 Alwan: presented by Rolah Farah
- 7.00 News Summary



Roger Moore plays Simon Templar in The Saint, on KTV1 today.

- 7.05 Show Jumping, presented by Ali Hamdi
- 7.30 Mafhoum Ayeshe Farhan: Arabic serial. Starring: Sayeda Kawari, Basma Hamada, Huda Hamada, Hilal Mohammad.
- 8.30 With Islam: hosted by Dr Khalid Al Madhkour
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 10.00 From People's Art
- 10.25 Imra'a Min Naar: Arabic feature film starring Yousuf Shabab, Safiya Al Omari, Ahmad Rashed, Aziza Rashed.
- 12.00 Late Night Variety

Show: hosted by Amina Al Sharrarh

- 1.30 News Summary
- 1.35 World News via Satellite
- 2.15 Holy Quran/Closedown

FRIDAY

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.30 Children's Magazine
- 10.00 News Summary
- 10.05 World News via Satellite
- 10.20 Hikayat Min Alam: Stories from Around the World.
- 11.00 Prophet's Saying: religious programme
- 11.15 Friday Prayer
- 12.15 Min Wahi Al Ayaat Al Bayanat: religious programme
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.20 World News via Satellite
- 2.00 INTERVAL
- 2.30 Preview of next week's programme on KTV
- 3.15 Hadith Deeni: religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mutwali Sharawi.
- 4.00 Ashan: Ayoun Saadha: Arabic play, starring: Mohammad Rida, Fatima Tabae, Samir Hussni. A bachelor rents a flat and falls in love with the owner's daughter.

- 7.00 News Summary
- 7.10 Kul Al Funoon: hosted by Rasha Magdi.
- 7.15 Weekly Seminar
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 10.00 Wrestling
- 10.45 Songs and Music
- 11.00 Qulub Eind Al Maraf: ep. 6, Arabic play featuring Maryam Al Saleh, Huda Hussain, Ibrahim Al Harbi. A social series on the role of the family in Kuwait and Bahrain.
- 11.50 News Summary
- 11.55 World News Via Satellite
- 12.30 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV-2

- 3.00 Holy Quran
- 3.10 Sports Studio: Big League Soccer, American basketball and sports magazine
- 6.00 Centurions: "Tornado of Terror": Cartoon serial.
- 6.30 The Mickey Mouse Club: "Toby Tyler."
- 7.00 Rags to Riches: "Bad Blood." Foley's brother pays a visit and asks for his share.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Max Headroom: 20 minutes into the future, and Carter has a challenging job: to expose a former TV producer.

9.30 Bill Cosby Show: "The Marks." Theo's planned holiday turns sour when he finds out that he has done well at school.

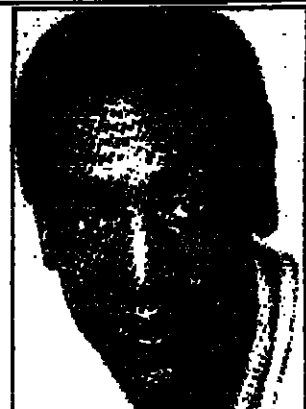
10.00 Paul Daniels Magic Show

10.30 Late Night Movie: "Boy From Oklahoma." Starring: Will Rogers Jr., Nancy Olson. In this Western comedy-drama, Rogers plays a quiet, peace loving sheriff of a town called Bluerock, which is run by a group of desperadoes. (1954). Duration: 88 minutes.

12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

FRIDAY

- 3.00 Holy Quran
- 3.10 Sports Studio: roundup of world and local sporting events.
- 6.00 Centurions: "Tornado of Terror": Cartoon serial.
- 6.30 The Mickey Mouse Club: "Toby Tyler."
- 7.00 Rags to Riches: "Bad Blood." Foley's brother pays a visit and asks for his share.
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Max Headroom: 20 minutes into the future, and Carter has a challenging job: to expose a former TV producer.



The Bill Cosby Show is at 9.30 pm on KTV 2.

commits a series of crimes with the help of his students. Is he guilty or not guilty? Matlock takes up his defence.

9.30 Weekend: local programme

10.00 What A Country: "Victor at an Exhibition." Victor becomes jealous when Maria finds a better suitor.

10.30 Crime Story: "The Pinnacle." A Police informer is placed in Lucas' gang.

11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

WHAT'S ON

THEATRE

KLT
Kuwait Little Theatre (KLT), Ahmadi, will hold auditions for the Summer Musical at its premises at 7.30 pm on Feb 16 and 19. Backstage helpers also needed. For further details contact 3985246 after 3 pm.

Kuwait Players-Auditions

Final casting for the play Stepping Out, directed by Ken Winston, takes place at Universal American School at 3 pm on Feb 11, Thursday. One more non-dancing role for an actress who can play the piano. Those interested attend auditions or call Ken Winston — 5385075 or Glenis, producer, 5730641.

Kuwait Players
"Do Not Disturb," an adult comedy written by Michael Perwin will be performed at 8 pm on Feb 22, 23, 24 and 25 at the Universal American School. For reservations ring 5613465; 5745838; 5618244. Tickets will also be available at the door.

CINEMA

British Council
The Young Sherlock Holmes and the Pyramid of Fear, a Steven Spielberg production, will be shown on Feb 13/14 at 6.30 pm in the British Council in Mansouriya. Duration: 105 minutes.

Two children's films — Five

Go to Mystery Moor and Five Go Off to Camp, based on Enid Blyton's Famous Five books, will be shown at 10.30 am on Feb 11 (Thursday). Duration: 71 minutes. Admission free but it is advisable to make bookings. Tel: 2515512; 2533204.

Films and the Law is the title of an American film festival, which will be held from Feb 13 to 17 at the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The following films will be shown:
Feb. 13: Mr Smith Goes to Washington; (1939) director: Frank Capra. Starring: James Stewart, Claude Rains, Edward Arnold. A naive man is elected to US Senate, but he doesn't conform to the pattern set for him by his backers and tries to expose corruption at the cost of his own career. Duration: 130 minutes.

Feb. 14: Modern Times; (1936); director: Charles Chaplin. Starring: Charles Chaplin, Paulette Goddard. One of the all-time "greats," a "sensational" one-man show by Chaplin, writing, directing, producing, scoring and starring in his saga of "everyman" in all times. It is a story of a tramp who moves from factory worker to department store janitor to singing waiter, as modern times knock him cruelly about. Duration: 87 minutes.

Feb. 15: The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman; (1974); director: John Korty; starring Cicely Tyson, Odette, Michael Murphy, Collin Wilcox. One of the best movies ever made for

American TV. Cicely Tyson won an Emmy award for her performance in the role of a 110 year-old woman who was an ex-slave, and lived to take part in a civil rights demonstration in 1962. Miss Jane is a fictional character but the incidents are based on real events that took place throughout the South after the Civil War. Adapted from Ernest J. Gaines novel. Duration: 100 minutes.

Feb. 16: All the King's Men; (1950); director: Robert Rossen; starring: Broderick Crawford, Mercedes McCambridge, John Ireland, Joanne Dru, John Derek. Oscar winner as the Best Film of 1950. One of the best films on the rise and fall of a politician. Broderick Crawford won an Oscar as Best Actor while Mercedes won in the Supporting Actress category. Duration: 109 minutes.

Feb. 17: The Best Man; (1964); director: Franklin Schaffner; starring: Cliff Robertson, Henry Fonda, Lee Tracy. Based on Gore Vidal's perceptive and outspoken play, it deals with the hot-and-heavy fight between two leading contenders of the Presidential nomination of their party. One of the best American movies about politics. Duration: 102 minutes.

All films will be shown at 7.30 pm promptly. Children not allowed inside the auditorium. The festival has been organised by the American Embassy in Kuwait in tandem with Kuwait Cine Club.

SOCIAL

Kapilku Photography Contest

Kapilku invites its members to take part in a photography contest entitled "Portraits of Filipinos in Kuwait". Last date for sending in entries is March 1. Entry forms available from all Filipino restaurants and the Philippines Embassy. For details phone Dick Orsen — 4877793.

Kuwait Welsh Society

Annual St David's Day dinner at Messiah Beach Hotel on Tuesday, March 1. For tickets and further details phone 4874548; 3910875; 3912584.

Flassik

Flassik will hold a Valentines dinner-musical at 6.30 pm Feb 12, Friday at Al Dira Ballroom, Ramada Al Salam Hotel. Free transport will be provided from the Church from 6 pm. The highlight of the evening will be the selection of the King and Queen of Hearts. For tickets ring 2439451, Mabuhay or Lords restaurant.

Danish Meeting

All Danes are invited to the "Fastelavn" party on Feb 12, 1 pm, at the Gazelle Club. For reservations contact Connie — 3947693; Karen-Marie — 3946725. Feb 9 is the last date for registration.

Kuwait Society For Handicapped

An open souk featuring everything from silks to groceries, silverware to rugs and toys, is being held at the premises of the Kuwait Society for the Handicapped, behind

Andalus Cinema, Cairo St. Open daily from 8 am to 12 noon and 3 to 7 pm, until Feb 15.

Kuwait Rondels

Aiden J. Harvey (British TV comedy impressionist) will be the special guest at the Kuwait Rondels 1988 Gala Annual Ball at Messiah Beach Hotel on Feb 11, Thursday. Tables available for six, 10 or 12 people. Dress formal-lounge suit. Tickets — KD 10. For reservations ring Paul Richards — 5337597; Martin Cheetham — 4745916.

Music Concert '88

Adeeb, Lynley (vocals), Amaar (guitar/vocals), Aasim (keyboard-synthesizer), Mur-taza (bass guitar) and Raza (drums) will participate in the Music Concert '88, due to be held on Feb 19 at Al Andalus

Cinema. They will present a variety of songs, originally sung by such groups as Duran Duran, Europe, Bonjovi and others. Tickets available at Al Andalus box office. For details contact — 5618482 or 3983165 (Adeeb).

Valentines Ball

Valentines Ball will be held on Feb 12 at Messiah Beach Hotel. For details phone Ahmed — 2435166, office hours.

Kuwait Nomads Quiz Night

The Kuwait Nomads Rugby Club will hold Quiz Night on Feb 17. Teams of four, must include one lady. For details and team registration contact Jon Evans (5339867) or Tony Sole (5330507) by Monday, Feb 15.



Jamil Al Yassin, a clearing agent at the purchasing department, was recently selected Employee of the Year by the Holiday Inn Hotel at its annual staff party. Highlights of the evening included a raffle, comedy and lots of entertainment. Above: a hotel employee wins a prize.

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

LOVE truth, but pardon error — Voltaire, French writer (1694-1778)

Getting the story is seldom easy

By Greg Myre

JOHANNESBURG, (AP): In a country where the media faces constant obstacles, no one has it tougher than South Africa's black journalists.

Yet they consistently produce some of the most detailed reporting on the complex situation in this deeply divided country, and play an increasingly prominent role in the anti-apartheid movement.

Several journalists have been among the thousands of black activists detained during a 19-month-old state of emergency. Free-lance journalist Brian Soku-tu has been held the entire period without charge.

The government also has threatened to close leading black-oriented newspapers, but they continue to direct harsh criticism at the white authorities.

Prominent "Since there are limited outlets for black expression in South Africa, black journalists play a particularly important role in articulating black aspirations and frustrations," said Keith Lister, the white publisher of the City Press.

Black journalists make up virtually the entire staff of black-oriented — but white-owned — newspapers such as City Press and the Sowetan. A handful of blacks have prominent editing and writing posts at "white" newspapers like the Star of Johannesburg, the nation's largest daily and a frequent government critic.

However, numerous attempts over the years to establish nationally circulated, black-owned publications have failed, usually for financial reasons.

Until the 1970s, blacks wrote almost exclusively for black publications that focused on the black scene and sports, and had little political content.

Only in the past two decades have mass-circulation black publications become overtly political and regularly challenged the white-led government's apartheid policies of racial segregation.

"Our young reporters now consider themselves blacks first and journalists second," said Aggrey Klaaste, editor of the Sowetan. "They see their work as part of the political struggle in South Africa."

Like all South African journalists, black reporters are bound by the extensive press restrictions and state of emergency regulations that limit reporting on unrest, security force actions and a host of politically sensitive matters.

But black journalists face additional difficulties. Several publications aimed at blacks, including New Nation and the Sowetan, are on the brink of closure for allegedly promoting organisations such as the outlawed African National Congress.

The New Nation, a weekly financed by the Roman Catholic church, appears closest to being shut down. It has challenged the government regulations in court.

The Sowetan received an official warning for a story about the ANC condemning "necklacing," a practice by black radicals who set alight a gasoline-soaked tyre placed around the neck of a victim, usually a suspected government informer. The government complained that the article placed the ANC in a favourable light.

"It's a no-win situation," said Klaaste. "If we report aggressively, we're going to be closed down. If we play by the government's rules, we lose credibility in the black community."

"White readers complain that I'm too radical, and black readers say I'm not radical enough," said Jon Qwelane, a reporter and columnist for the Star.

Qwelane and others say black reporters bristle when white editors start to talk about traditional journalistic objectivity.

Destroyed "My house was bulldozed in a forced removal when I was 10," Qwelane said. "I've been arrested, forced to ride on 'black' buses and trains, denied the right to vote. How can I divorce my personal experiences from my reporting? I know what these people are feeling because I'm exactly in the same situation."

Many leading black journalists have been detained or arrested. Klaaste and Percy Qoboza, editor of the City Press until his death Jan 17, were held without charge for five months in 1977. Zwelakhe Sisulu, editor of the New Nation, has been detained since December 1986. Qwelane has been arrested several times, and is deaf in his right ear from a severe beating in 1977 by two white men he says were plainclothes policemen.

Some black reporters say their greatest fear is from the black community. Qwelane says that strictly for concern of his own personal safety, he has not written a column condemning "necklacing."

Long regarded as the sleeping giant of Southeast Asia, Indonesia is emerging as a newly industrialised nation with a strategic position commanding sea lanes between the Indian and Pacific Oceans. Its vast natural resources include oil, gas, rubber, tin, timber and palm oil.

"Indonesia's strength as the largest country in Southeast Asia is of prime importance to the region's stability," said US Ambassador Paul Wolfowitz. "And its economic success has contributed greatly to the striking dynamism of the Pacific basin."

With American companies having invested \$4 billion in Indonesia, Wolfowitz said, "economic and political ties are becoming ever more intertwined."

Helped by the oil boom of the 1970s and foreign aid, Suharto is proud of bringing the nation to self-sufficiency in rice production and of improvements in health and education.

Credit not given

SIR: I wrote an article on the American feature film, The Conqueror, which KTV2 showed on Feb 4. Surprisingly, the Arab Times used the information without giving me the credit. A beautiful still from the film which showed John Wayne and Susan Hayward was also ignored, instead using another photograph of Wayne from The Barbarian and the Geisha. The Conqueror made in 1956, was produced and directed by Dick Powell and released through RKO Pictures. John Wayne played Temujin, better known as Genghis Khan; Susan Hayward was Bortai; Pedro Armendariz and William Conrad played Temujin's brothers and Agnes Moorehead played his mother. Ted de Corsia was Susan Hayward's father and Lee Van Cleef played a Mongol soldier.

All Behbehani, Hawaii.

Editor's Note: the photograph supplied was a poor photocopy, which could not be used. The article, which Mr Ali claims to have written, is the second paragraph of this letter and did not deserve credit.

Parents in trouble

SIR: Some parents, who wanted to get their children admitted to the Carmel School for the 1988/89 academic year, were disappointed due to the school authority's decisions. The school had specifically asked parents to submit birth certificates and put up a notice saying "Children born before Sept 30, 1984" would be accepted for the Lower KG class. The children were to take an admission test. After the test, the authorities refused to admit some of the children who had "done well" under the pretext that they were overage.

The authorities had never said a child would not be admitted if he or she was above a certain age. This sudden turn of events caused lots of trouble to the dejected parents. I'd like to know why the school did not specify the age limit before taking the test?

A parent, (Name and address supplied)

Highly taxing

SIR: The government's decision to charge KD 10 per year to renew residence permits

has placed considerable strain on expatriate families with children holding separate passports. For instance, to renew residence permit for a family of three children costs about KD 200. This is highly taxing for the low income group. I request the authorities to review the policy and withdraw fees for non-working foreigners, such as housewives, children and students.

Abu Baker, Khalitan.

Inadequate bus service

SIR: The KPCT bus service between Fahahel and Mina Abdullah and Mina Al Zoor is inadequate. Buses ply at about 40 minute interval. For instance, a bus leaves for Mina Al Zoor, via Mina Abdullah, at about 5.55 am. The next bus that arrives only at about 6.35 am is already overcrowded, leaving no room for passengers from Fahahel. A large number of commuters are finding it difficult to reach their offices or work sites on time. I request the KPCT authority to review the situation and increase the number of buses on Route 205.

Christy G. Gnanapragajam, Mina Abdullah

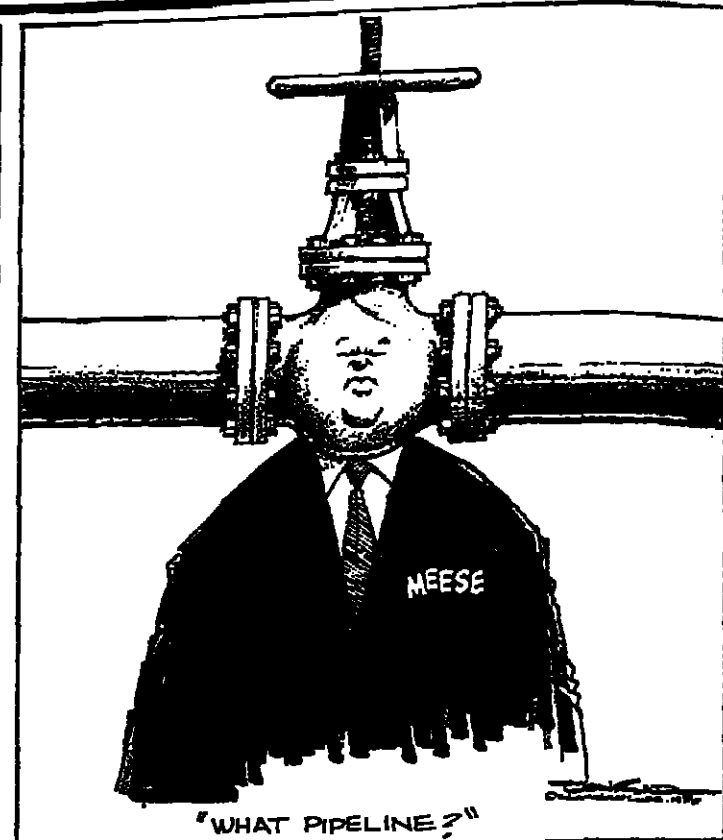


Tanker war

SIR: The unabated tanker war might have devastating consequences due to possible oil spills. Many Gulf states are dependent on sea water desalination, involving huge efforts and money. Instead of protecting and preserving nature's gift of water, man is destroying it to prove that "man is the destroyer par excellence."

James P. Charles, Safat.

ALL letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.



Rajiv aides debate merit of snap polls

By Rajendra Bajpai

NEW DELHI, (Reuters): Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, battered last year by scandal and poor election results, looks like a winner again and heartened advisors are thinking about mid-term polls.

Rajiv lost a series of state elections last year and his hold on north India's Hindi heartland, a major stronghold of his Congress (I) party, appeared weakening. But his party won in Nagaland last November and last week dislodged a well-entrenched communist government from another major north-eastern state, Tripura.

Congress also appeared set to form a coalition government in Meghalaya state near Tripura although it failed to retain its majority.

Opposition leaders said Rajiv is being urged by some advisers to call a snap poll in the hope the party would keep its majority in Parliament, although perhaps nothing like the three-fourths of the lower house it now controls.

Difficult The advisers believe an outright win in December 1989, when the parliamentary elections are due, would be less likely unless Rajiv's own image and popularity as well as the economy showed strong signs of revival.

His popularity waned last year and his image as "Mr Clean" has suffered because of arms deal payoff allegations.

The Indian economy also has been hit by the worst drought of the century.

A section of Rajiv's advisers are impressing upon him that the situation is worsening, that the full impact of last year's drought will be felt more this year and that the opposition is still disunited.

Lal Advani, president of the right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), said.

He said there was no indication Rajiv would call a snap election but the government's credibility was at an all-time low and he would be better off seeking a new mandate now.

Advani said his own party would prefer to wait until the end of 1989 as this would give it time to prepare.

A new complication is the death last month of the charismatic Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, M.G. Ramachandran.

He was a close ally of Rajiv and could have helped the Congress Party win parliamentary elections in Tamil Nadu state while himself remaining in power at the state level.

Advani said it was a good arrangement and worked to the advantage of both Ramachandran and Rajiv.

His death split the ruling state party and Rajiv dismissed Ramachandran's widow as the state's new chief minister and put the state under direct New Delhi rule pending new state elections.

Opposed Muralidhar Bhandare, a Congress (I) Member of Parliament, is opposed to mid-term national elections, but he said he would favour a snap ballot if the party won in Tamil Nadu.

"Meghalaya and Tripura are very important but they are not national indicators," he said. "But we have to adjust to changing circumstances and unless there is a landslide victory in Tamil Nadu I think we should not have mid-term elections."

Although Rajiv has said he does not favour mid-term polls, the debate continues.

Advani said he believed Rajiv would not seek a new mandate now but added: "I do hedge my statement by saying anything is possible."

An opinion poll published by Sunday magazine of Calcutta showed a big majority of people in five cities in the Hindi heartland believed prices of essential commodities had risen sharply in the past one year.

In four of the five cities a majority said corruption had increased during Rajiv's rule, although few believed he himself was corrupt.

Yet, in two cities more than 50 per cent and in the remaining more than 40 per cent said they would vote for the Congress against an opposition alliance.

Puzzle intrigues Britain

Dead scientists 'tell tales'

By Marcus Eliason

LONDON, (AP): When the body of a young nuclear lab technician was found halfway down a cliff in western England, it came as a jolting reminder to some Britons of a puzzle that has intrigued the nation for 16 months.

There has been a baffling string of deaths, suicides and disappearances of scientists working on defence-related projects.

Was it coincidence or a conspiracy? Nothing has surfaced to suggest that it is more than just a bizarre chain of events. And there is no known information linking the latest death to the previous ones.

Secret Police began searching for 23-year-old Russell Smith in mid-January after he vanished from his parent's home, where he lived. He had previously asked for a day off from his job at the Atomic Energy Authority (AEA) in Harwell, 80 kilometres (50 miles) west of London.

Last week, police found Smith's car, containing a note, at a cliff-top parking lot at Boscastle.

On Oct 28, 1986, Ashhad Shavir, a computer systems analyst working for another Marconi unit near London, was found strangled in a park near Bristol. The inquest ruled he killed himself by tying a rope to a tree, looping the other end around his neck and then driving

in Cornwall, 240 kilometres (150 miles) from Harwell. On Monday, they found Smith's body down the cliff.

The cause of death and the content of the note have not been disclosed. The AEA says it knows of nothing to link Smith to the previous deaths. Police refuse to speculate on whether his death was related to security, crime, or a personal matter.

The mystery of the dead scientists goes back to Aug 5, 1986, when Vimal Dajibhai, 24, was found dead in the gorge below Clifton bridge, near Bristol. Suicide was suspected but the inquest left the verdict open.

Dajibhai was a junior software engineer checking torpedo guidance systems at Marconi underwater systems in Watford, near London. It is not known why he travelled to Bristol, 170 kilometres (105 miles) west of London.

On Oct 28, 1986, Ashhad Shavir, a computer systems analyst working for another Marconi unit near London, was found strangled in a park near Bristol. The inquest ruled he killed himself by tying a rope to a tree, looping the other end around his neck and then driving

government was widely interpreted as a sign the guerrillas want to negotiate a settlement while they still have some bargaining muscle.

The government said it will resume talks, broken off last December after a bomb attack on a Civil Guard police barracks killed 11 people, only when ETA calls a complete halt to all guerrilla attacks.

An opinion poll carried out for a Basque television station showed that 50 per cent of Basques fear that ETA will strike again despite the truce offer.

They are the most skilled Arab population

Occupied JERUSALEM: They are among the most destitute and politically impotent in the Middle East. More than two million are registered with the UN as refugees, 766,000 of whom live in concrete-and-tin shanties in camps in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, and the Israeli-occupied lands.

They are also among the wealthiest, best educated, and most influential Arabs. In their ranks are millionaire bankers and building contractors, writers and lawyers, and leading academics at most major Middle East universities as well as prestigious schools such as the Sorbonne and Harvard.

Influence They are the Palestinians. An estimated five million people who are at the centre of the Arab-Israeli dispute, which this year marks its 40th anniversary. Although one of the smaller Arab nationalities, the Palestinians are also among the most diverse.

Since a 1974 Arab summit, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has officially been the "sole legitimate representative" of the Palestinian people, but its activities are not a fair representation of the wider community's role in the region.

Beirut became a major regional centre after Palestinians who left newly-created Israel helped it blossom, financially and

physically. In the Gulf, Palestinians have had key roles in the oil industry, civil service, and academia. Palestinian engineers and builders have helped shape the physical environment in North Africa and the Arab heartland since the postwar wave of independence.

As a Mideast analyst said, "The Palestinians' influence and impact are often disproportionate to their numbers."

"They have been feared because they challenged the strategy of Arab regimes, which did not want to fight Israel except verbally. Arab public opinion sympathised with the Palestinians, whereas the regimes did not. Arab regimes were dragged by public opinion into the confrontation, first with Zionism, then with Israel. That interaction continues to this day and limits the regimes' freedom of action," commented University of Chicago historian Rashid Khalidi.

Palestinians are also widely noted for their adaptability and perseverance. Predominantly agrarian people before the creation of Israel, they have — in the absence of land — become the most skilled Arab population.

"We are the Jews of the Arab world," a young Palestinian once said referring to the emphasis on education. A study by Mohammad Hallaj, director of the Palestine Research and Education Centre in Washington, concluded that Palestinians rank

proportionately, third in the world in numbers with post-high school educations.

Obsession "When an agrarian society loses its land, it loses not only property, but livelihood. For that reason, education became an obsession," Hallaj commented. "Over the past 20 years particularly, there has been an unparalleled upsurge because it was necessary for survival. A mobile or insecure population can't rely on fixed economic activity, like industry. It has to have mobile 'capital' that it can carry in its head."

Skills have been vital to Palestinians now dispersed to the corners of six continents. The largest community outside the region is in the United States. Argentina, Brazil, Sweden, France, Canada, and West Germany are locations of significant Palestinian communities.

Dispersal, however, has not diminished the strong sense of national identity, according to Khalidi. A Palestinian who was born in the US. "All Palestinians in the Diaspora and in occupation share a certain set of memories or experiences. This is reinforced by a strong political culture which draws on these experiences. That is in turn reinforced by common circumstances of statelessness and alienation. ... You're different and you're made to know you're different, wherever you are."

Among exiles, the continued

links are evident in financial contributions made to the PLO, the intermarriage of new generations who have never lived in Palestine, and employment of fellow Palestinians. "There is a whole network which reinforces the political factors, culturally and socially," Khalidi said.

Stateless Hallaj added: "Ask generations born in the Diaspora where they are from and they will tell you the village of their fathers or grandfathers."

Only a minority still live in what was, until 1948, the British mandate of Palestine. According to the Middle East Research and Information Project, 42 per cent of the world's Palestinians live in Israel, the West Bank, and Gaza Strip, compared with 78 per cent in 1952.

While thousands of Palestinians have become citizens of the nations in which they now reside, the vast majority of those outside Israel and the occupied territories are, in effect, stateless. Hallaj said. They have local or UN identity cards, instead of passports. "It's not an issue of people stubbornly refusing to acquire citizenship of other countries. In the majority of cases ... this option is not available because of restrictive nationalisation laws," he said.

The passion of Palestinian nationalism has permeated most aspects of life. Even humour has a nationalist tone.

The Christian Science Monitor.

Violence by Jewish settlers rising

By Ruth Sinai

WASHINGTON, (AP): Incidents of violence by Jewish settlers against Palestinians increased last year, according to the annual State Department report to Congress on human rights around the world.

The 20-page section on Israel and the occupied territories covers 1987 and therefore mentions only briefly the violence that flared between Israelis and Palestinians in December and which continues to rage.

The report does not place blame for the unrest on either side, saying only that "much of the violence appears to have been spontaneous or locally generated," rather than orchestrated by the Palestine Liberation Organisation or other outside groups.

Shooting "Incidents of violence by Israeli settlers increased during the year, including the shooting death of one Palestinian youth, the use of unauthorised armed patrols, physical harassment, disruption of legally authorised political meetings, attacks on refugee camps," the report said.

Forty-two Palestinians were killed in 1987, most of them by Israeli gunfire, and some 300 were wounded. Of those, 22 were killed and about 150 wounded in December's unrest, the State Department said.

"In some cases, Israeli military authorities have prosecuted or

taken administrative action against (Israeli) soldiers who have fired at unarmed Palestinians. However, Palestinians have charged that punishment of (Israeli) personnel is often light or suspended," the report said.

Palestinians were believed responsible for killing two Israeli soldiers and six civilians in 1987, as well as the wounding of 135 Israelis.

Torture Although torture of Palestinian is forbidden by law, "Palestinians and international human rights organisations complain of widespread and systematic mistreatment of prisoners," including minors.

The report notes that Amnesty International has found the Israeli extracted confessions from Palestinians by beatings, solitary confinement, hoodings and cold showers.

A special judicial commission formed in 1987 and headed by former Supreme Court Justice Moshe Landau found that Shin Bet internal security agents routinely used to torture to obtain confessions, "and that they routinely perjured themselves in court by denying that such mistreatment occurred," the report said.

Israel deported nine Palestinians in 1987 and detained more than 120 for periods of up to six months without trial, the report said.

At least six Arab houses were demolished in the occupied West Bank and Gaza in 1987.

دولت العرب

Museum needed to preserve contributions of one-time greats

Stars of yesteryear fade into oblivion

By Firoze Rangoonwalla

THE whole of last year and the beginning of this year has proved ominous for the film industry, since many of its famous names have been snatched away by the icy hand of death. As many as fifteen film personalities passed away in 1987, which ended with the sudden demise of M.G.R., uncrowned king of Tamil cinema as well as politics.

But the real tragedy is that the industry has not as yet set up any permanent memorial or museum, where their works could be preserved and remembered. In many cases, the film folks did not even bother to hold or attend condolence meetings.

While some big names, who also had political connections, may get statues or stamps in their memory, the rest are bound to be forgotten by the passage of time. One who richly deserves all tributes is no doubt M.G.R. (Ramachandran) who was worshipped like a demigod by millions in Tamil Nadu. He became a folk hero, rising

from conditions of abject poverty to the highest place in his realm.

Surprisingly, this champion of the Tamil people was neither born in Tamil Nadu nor belonged to that language. He came from a Malayalam-speaking family of Sri Lanka. His father Gopala Menon was a magistrate and professor in Kandy, where M.G.R. was born on 17 January 1917. But within two years he lost his father and the burden of bringing up two sons fell on his mother, Satyabhama. She migrated to Kumbakonam in Tamil Nadu and took up odd jobs. Amidst hunger and suffering, M.G.R. learnt the Tamil alphabet in a village school.

At the age of seven, due to his good looks, he got a job in a drama company. Thereafter followed many years of struggle and harassment which taught him a few lessons, till he got major roles and popular acclaim.

While taking an active part in the politics of the struggle for freedom and becoming a follower of Mahatma Gandhi and Annadurai, the stage actor drift-



Surendra (left) with Noorjehan in Mehboob's 'Annul Ghadi.' As stars like Dilip Kumar and Raj Kapoor caught Mehboob's fancy, he receded into character roles.

ted to cinema. After some more struggles he emerged as the most popular hero and the darling of the downtrodden masses. In real life, too, he did a lot to help the poor and lowly, especially women who adored him as their noble protector.

That's why his own production banner 'Emgeeyar Pictures' had "year" or friend tagged on to it. All his films had

dialogue and songs which preached the D.M.K. ideology, of equality, upliftment and the fight against oppression. They got thunderous applause. In actual practice, he helped countless causes and the common advice to the needy people was: "Go to M.G.R. he will help." All this prepared the ground for his political ascent and when the time came, he was voted to

power with a massive mandate. And he continued to be Chief Minister till his death though in his last years, he had even lost his power of speech.

M.G.R. was not considered a good actor but he acted in dozens of hit films. Only a few of them were dubbed in Hindi, so that the all-India audience could see him in action. But they proved failures and M.G.R. could never become a national figure. In the cinema of the South he has left a permanent mark, with his 140 popular films, made between 1950 and 1978, after which he stopped acting. He also kept up his carefully cultivated image of a hero who never smoked or drank, always remained loyal to one woman, safeguarded all others and respected the mother figure. He never died on

the screen as his fans would not accept it. And when he really died, several people committed suicide.

Popular

Many popular actors of Hindi films also went into eternal sleep. Anwar Hussain, elder brother of Nargis Dutt and son of Jaddanbai used to act from his childhood. He became a hero for some time in A.R. Kardar's films, after which he took to character acting, especially as a villain. His most memorable role came in Zia Sarhady's "Humlog", as the petty thief who betrays his close friend and commits suicide.

Another successful villain was Jeevan, who started life in the early talkies. When his career got a setback, he began to play Narad Muni in mythological films and became popular with his "Narayan Narayan". Then, Mannohan Desai again resurrected him as a villain. Now his son Kiran Kumar is continuing the tradition.

Both Anwar and Jeevan suffered a long illness, as invalids, in their last years. Similarly, Surendra who was once a famous singer and actor; also lingered before his demise last year. Tall and handsome Surendra Nath arrived from Punjab and was at once hailed as Bombay's answer to Calcutta's Saigal. The famous "Devdas" role of the doomed lover had made Saigal a matinee idol. So Mehboob Khan made "Mannohan" with Surendra in a similar role and it clicked.

He played many important roles in those early days, like the good son in Anant played by Rajendra Kumar in Mother India. Surendra's golden hour came with Mehboob's slick romantic films with excellent music by Naulshad. The highlight was Annul Ghadi where Surendra was



The charismatic M.G.R. (left) in the dubbed Hindi film Ranganen Duniya — In spite of his immense popularity in the South, he never became a national figure.

paired with melody queen Noorjehan and sang evergreen songs like *Awaaz de kahan hai*. His breezy sonorous voice helped his image of a sad lover. An unusual but popular role he played was that of an absent-minded professor in Anokhi Ada. His heroine was Naseem (Saira Banu's mother). Here too, he sang songs like *Kyon umbe dil diya*, though Mukesh scored over him, in this very film.

Soon, younger actors like Dilip Kumar and Raj Kapoor caught Mehboob's fancy and Surendra receded into character acting followed by retirement. Even his soft voice was not used in playback, as it would not suit the changed image of the hero. He felt neglected and died a broken-hearted man. Actress Meena

Shorey also passed away after a spell of sickness and suffering last year. She has remained famous as the fat *Lara Lappa* girl of Ek Thi Ladki. But actually she started her career in the thirties in Sohrab Modi's films like Sikander as a charming heroine. After some years she turned to comedy with Roop K. Shorey's films. Then she migrated to Pakistan where she worked for a few years, till her death.

Among other talents snatched away by 1987, were: writer Inder Raj Anand, lyricists Rajinder Kishen, S.H. Bihari and Farooque Kaiser, composers Shankar and Jaidev, directors Khwaja Ahmed Abbas, John Abraham and Kedar Kapoor and of course above all there was the versatile Kishore Kumar.



Meena Shorey, the *Lara Lappa* girl in Ek Thi Ladki who died last year.



The late villain Jeevan with comedian Dhummal who died recently.

By Raju Gopalakrishnan

NEW DELHI, India, (AP): A television series depicting the bloody rioting that marked the division of the subcontinent 41 years ago has provoked violent demonstrations and a court suit demanding the show be stopped.

The Saturday-night series *Tamas* — Darkness in Hindi recreates the turbulent era in which an estimated 500,000 people were killed in riots between Hindus and Muslims as India and Pakistan gained independence from Britain in 1947.

The creation of Muslim Pakistan and Hindu-majority India also sparked the largest migration in history. More than 11 million people fled from one country to the other to escape bloodshed.

Tamas uses the partition and rioting as the backdrop in its story about the people of a north Indian town in 1947. The six-part film, which began Jan 9, seems disturbingly affecting, as evidenced by the reaction.

In the city of Hyderabad last week, police opened fire to scatter a mob attacking a television station showing the serial. Three demonstrators were wounded by gunfire, and three others hurt in a club-swinging charge by police.

A similar demonstration in New Delhi earlier left eight people injured by police clubs. Both protests were led by Hindu groups who complain that the show could rekindle past violence.

"*Tamas* will reopen old wounds," says Kedar Nath Sahni, vice president of the pro-Hindu Bharatiya Janata party. He also says the show gives the impression that Hindu groups incited the violence.

Hundreds of thousands of Hindus who have seen partition will feel that the government is trying to blame them for the violence," he says.

Criticism

Others complain that the programme on government television — which controls all TV programming in India — could upset the country's fragile religious fabric.

In India, tensions between Hindus and Muslims often erupt into violence. More than 175 people died in Hindu-Muslim battles in north India last year.

Eleven percent of India's 780 million people are Muslims, and 82 per cent are Hindus.

Government television has been criticised for previous

Storm of protest over partition TV serial in India



Om Puri and Deepa Sahi: victims of hatred

serials, including the long-running *Ramayana*, which is based on a 2,600-year-old Hindu epic. Critics estimate that 100 million people have watched the *Ramayana*, and say it has led to "a burst of neo-Hinduism." The show itself has not prompted any violence, however.

Nirmal Goswami, a television critic for the India Post newspaper, said of the *Tamas* series that "the carnage of partition is a deep wound in the Indian mind" and that the series' director, Govind Nihalani has reopened it.

He said India's millions of television viewers are "not likely to be amused by the whiplash of realism that *Tamas* pretends to portray."

"How are Muslims and Hindus in the small towns going to countenance the religious provocations which emanate from the film?" he asks. "It is entirely possible that the tolerance limits of these people have been grossly overestimated."

"Our trial memory rarely goes to sleep. It's forever awake, restless, suspicious, waiting for a little sign, a sound, a symbol to uncoil itself and plunge into a frenzy of crime."

Goswami said. Last month, Javed Siddiqui, a Muslim businessman, made a similar argument in petitioning the Bombay high court to ban the show.

"The serial is bound to revive the sad memories of both communities... to poison the minds of the younger generation, to think and feel in terms of Hindus and Muslims being opponents and enemies of each other," he said.

But the court thought otherwise, ruling that "*Tamas* is in equal part against fundamentalism and extremists of both communities. The message is loud and clear, directed as it is against the sickness of communalism."

The Supreme Court upheld that judgement. People in Bombay also demonstrated in favour of the show, and a youth group in Andhra Pradesh state gave its national integration award to director Nihalani and the show's writer, Bhisham Sahni.

Muslim Parliament member Syed Shahabuddin also is in favour of the show, saying sectarian brutality must be exposed before steps can be taken to counter it.

"There is a basic goodness in

people. Their consciences will awaken when brutality is presented before them," he says. "I am all for exposure."

Shahabuddin feels that fears about showing religious violence to a mass audience are overplayed.

"Why do people think the public will only remember the scenes of violence?" he says. "The scenes of Hindus shielding Muslim neighbours from religious fanatics and vice versa can leave a stronger impression on the mind."

Director Nihalani justifies *Tamas* with the message that is flashed before each episode: "Those who forget history are condemned to repeat it."

Nihalani, surrounded by bodyguards after he received threatening telephone calls, said he has always wanted to make a film on partition. The bearded director was an assistant in the filming of *Gandhi*, much of which dealt with the same subject.

"*Tamas* will not create any kind of communal tension," Nihalani said. "The basic thrust has been to emphasise the desire of the common man to live peacefully and help each other regardless of community and religion."

Behind the Screen

Amrish Puri's ad-lib, *Mogambo khush hua* (mugamto is khush) in *Mogambo* has become extremely popular. People give it different twists for applying to different situations. But Amrish himself was caught on the wrong foot, when he lost his temper and slapped a municipal worker who was spraying pesticides near his house. A case was made and Amrish had to report to the police station. The workers took out a procession against him and some of them shouted: *Mogambo khush nahin hua*.

Chunky would have become a star much before Aag Hi Aag. He was tested for the role of the cop which Mohan Bhandari later played in the super hit *Pratigast*. But director N. Chandra told him that it was a small film and may not run. So it was better if he started with a big film. Yet, in a way, it also proved true as Bhandari has not gained much from *Pratigast* while Chunky has become a star after *Aag Hi Aag*, and now Chandra has also taken him in *Tenzab* as a big star.

Shabana Azmi considers herself so busy that she did not agree to take part in a seminar on censorship though it was jointly held by two Delhi ministries. Not only did she refuse but she even had the cheek to suggest that her writer husband Javed should be invited in her place. The authorities turned it down as Javed is the promoter of violent films and the seminar was meant to suggest stricter censorship for them. So poor Javed lost face.

Nobody knows about the fate of new film *Raasta* starring Dilip, Mithun, and Sri Devi. It was lavishly launched with great fanfare. But soon it was heard that Dilip Kumar was having differences with director Bapayya about camera angles and character etching. It seems a repetition of the old story about clashes with director Asit Sen in the *Balraag* days. And what about Aag Ka Darya directed by Rajendra Singh, which has been lying incomplete for years, though it has the exciting combination of Dilip and Rekha?

Amitabh Bachchan though surrounded by enemies, manages to discover friends from strange sources. The latest are those selling cinema tickets in black. Their business has suffered as there are no big releases

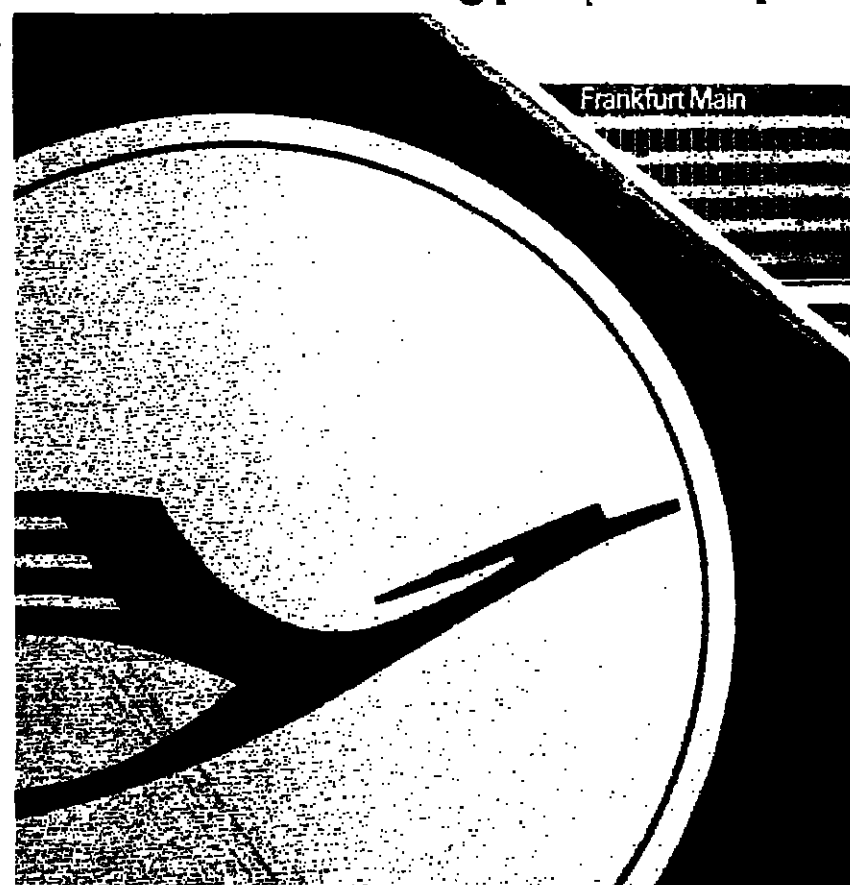
and Shahenshah from which they hope to earn a lot has been postponed. So all the black-vultures have united for once and decided to fully support Shahenshah by preventing its opponents from creating mischief. If they are robbing the public that way, it does not seem to matter.

Dharmendra has broken all star records by charging one lakh rupees for each day's shooting. He has also broken the record of not even contributing full day's work in a sober condition.



Dilip Kumar: creating problems for directors

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Sparrow Crest

By Keith Wells

OUR recent TV Poll showed that Falcon Crest was by far the most popular programme on KTV and I started to wonder why this was so. I mean, the story is so utterly absurd... By the time you read this, the Wednesday night edition will have appeared, so I may be out of date already... but take Chase Gioberti for example.

In the past year, he has been shot, paralysed for life, hobbled about on crutches for a couple of weeks, his wife's been raped, his son emigrated to Australia after his daughter in law was killed in a plane crash, son remarried a loony who divorced him and remarried her first husband, Chase himself is in the midst of a divorce, has fought and won a major election, fought countless lawsuits against his Aunt Angela and his wife went blind, had a brain tumour survived by the skin of her teeth, had a baby and a love affair with his half brother and last week maybe got drowned but they haven't found his body yet and nobody ever dies permanently so don't worry about it too much yet the blighter may pop up in one of the underwater programmes any day now.

I thought I'd had a pretty rough year, but compared to Chase nothing much has happened to me in my entire life! About the only believable character in the whole series is Melissa simply because it's all driven her mad. What is amazing is that the writers have assembled a cast of the most handsome and beautiful swines on the face of the earth and then let them at each other's throats week after week.

Look at Angela Channing, if she was Reagan's first wife it certainly explains a lot about American Foreign Policy, doesn't it, and if Nancy replaced her just think what sort of a lady Nancy must be to get away with it? I think Granny Angela is certifiably insane and in any reasonable society would have been locked out of harm's way years ago. Let's look at an average episode, you won't see this one on your screens for a while, but I promise that sooner or later it

will get to Kuwait.

Scene One: Sparrow Crest, enormous house filled with flowers and bottles of California Pepsi. Enter Angela.

"Chow Lee, bring me the papers to have Maggie committed to the insane asylum, Richard Channing convicted of murder and Chase drowned in a vat of champagne."

"Yes, Mrs Channing" Chow Lee exits, comes back with pile of documents, hands them over, has a quickheart attack, rolls behind the sofa. Enter Emma, clutching a teddy bear which she has just legally adopted as her son. "Mother, Mother, I'm going to get married."

"Nonsense Emma, Where's Lance?"

"He's just divorcing somebody, then he's going to marry Melissa at luncheon and he's got an adultery appointment this afternoon."

Scene Two: Lance is talking to Chase Gioberti. "Well Chase, I've got a problem."

"So have I, Lance, I'm not sure if I'm dead or not."

"Don't worry Chase, but listen, you've got to help me, should I drive the pink Porsche, the blue Porsche or the purple Porsche?"

Enter Saint Maggie. "Hello boys, which one of you is my husband this week?"

"Gee, Maggie, I dunno," says Chase, looking troubled, which is his best expression.

"Not me, we don't have our affair till next Wednesday," leers Lance with an arrogant sneer, which is his best expression.

"I think we got divorced, or maybe you died in childbirth on me," says Richard Channing with a quizzical smile, which is his best expression. Maggie tosses her hair and looks concerned, which is her most popular piece of acting and earns her more money every week than you or I earn in a decade.

Scene Three: Enter Melissa, looking sultry, she stops in front of the camera, slowly her sultry look changes to a mad look and then she smashes a glass and runs away.

Scene Four: A beautiful mysterious stranger, dressed in furs, feathers and folderols, and played by some aging film star with a face lift so tight her skin squeaks, drives up to Sparrow Crest in a white Cadillac, gets out, clutching an envelope. She rings the doorbell, Chow Lee, writes across the floor, claws open the door and gasps "Heuk, heuk, aargh."

Beautiful, mysterious stranger smiles, hands him the envelope, then leaves him to get on with his heart attack while she gets back into the white Cadillac and drives away. Emma waves to her as she leaves.

Scene Five: The intensive care unit at the hospital. The doctors are looking very worried. The Chief Surgeon says, "This is very serious, we've got this expensive medical set all

built and ready to go, and so far this week nobody's been sick enough to use it. What are we going to do? The junior doctors all start making suggestions:

"We could bring in Melissa, raving mad."

"How about Chase paralysed?"

"Has Maggie had a baby lately?"

"A car crash for Lance?"

"How about another big disaster, like the plane crash, or the earthquake. Then we could all get nice big roles shouting 'Nurse, bring the screens!' and stuff like that."

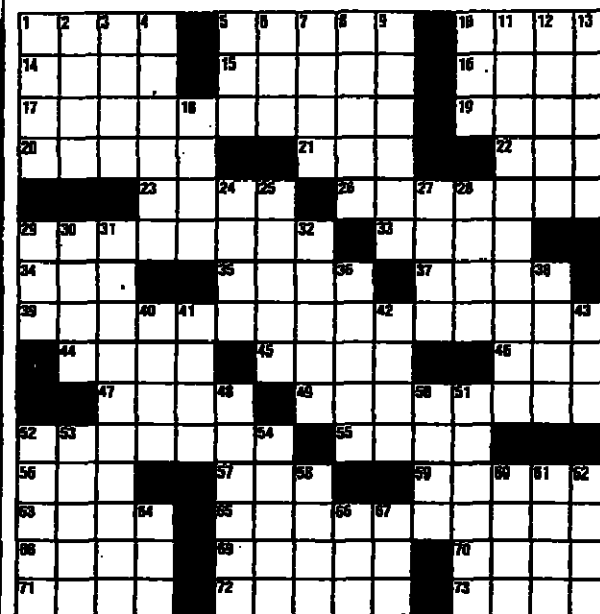
The Chief Surgeon's eyes light up. "I've got it!" he shouts. "We'll have a plague, make sure every major character gets it, then take a couple of weeks to decide who lives or dies?"

CUT.

Scene Six: Back at Sparrow Crest, Chow Lee opens the envelope, gasps in shock, horror, outrage, then slumps back behind the sofa. Enter Angela, "Chow Lee, I want a glass of water, stop this silly heart attack at once and get it for me."

"Yes Mrs Channing." He drags himself across the floor to the kitchen, stopping to polish her shoes as he passes. Emma bursts in "Mother, Mother, something terrible's happened, I just stepped on an ant, I think I broke it's leg. I'm so sorry, Mother, it was an accident."

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- Male swine
 - Kind of bear
 - Seine sights
 - Beloved of 50 Down
 - Took an oath
 - Collegian's pad
 - Tediously verbose
 - Bluish green
 - Measuring device
 - Corn unit
 - Raisas
 - Nursemaid
 - Day of rest
 - L + I
 - WW II mil. gp.
 - Biblical lion
 - Chances
 - Soft cheese
 - Yakety-yak
 - Columbus
 - Observed
 - Western Native
 - American
 - Springsteen, with "The"
 - Game of American Indian origin
 - Weaver's device
 - Vintage autos
 - Cruces, N.M.
 - Broke bread
 - Part of NASA
 - Against
 - Gabber
 - Carol
- DOWN**
- Aromatic ointment
 - Woodwind instrument
 - "She Sings?"
 - University officer
 - Greek letter
 - Possess
 - Star or stone
 - Regions
 - Sketch again
 - Actress Lupino
 - Garrulous
 - Spew lava
 - Shatter
 - Actress Fay
 - Between AM and PM
 - Llama territory
 - All
 - Shakespeare or Homer
 - Cosby's "Albert"
 - Midwest nation
 - Political talkfest
 - Ford Range, Antarctica
 - Clip a Merino
 - Salamanders
 - Dilemma
 - Hops dryer

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
BRIDGE BY ROTE

North-South vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♠ 8
♥ Q 7 2
♦ A J 7 6 3
♣ J 10 8 6

EAST
♠ A 6 3 2
♥ 8 3
♦ 9 8
♣ A K 5 3 2

SOUTH
♠ Q 9 7
♥ A K 5
♦ K Q 5 4
♣ Q 9 4

The bidding:
East 1♣ South 1♦ West 2♣ North 3NT
Pass Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♠
When we were learning to play bridge, we had dozens of "rules" drummed into us. As we progressed, we learned to forget those bromides and treat each case individually. But old habits die hard, as this hand from the final of Britain's premier competition, the Gold Cup, illustrates vividly.

North-South were playing weak no trump opening bids; hence, South's one diamond. We don't understand West's urgency to get into the auction at the two-level with his ratty club suit. North's jump to three diamonds was a limit raise, and South naturally converted to three no trump.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:
SOLON SEAS MARI
TRAVE TALE EDAM
EDDIE AREA RUMP
REL DRY STOOLIE
ORIOLES UPAND
PENNE SEPTETTE
EDGE HEPTAD EOS
SCENARIOS
ACT HATTER OGRE
PRECEDES STORER
PETAL JUSTICE
AVARICE APE SEC
RINE URNS TOSIT
ECUS BIAS SHOVE
LEIS ENVY EMMER

"Fourth-best from your longest and strongest," goes the old saw, and West dutifully tabled the three of clubs. It did not take declarer long to rake in one club trick, five diamonds and three hearts to make his game.

True, even on this auction there are a few situations where the lead of a low club might gain, but not many. Any time the club suit is vital and neither declarer nor dummy has four cards in the suit, West can bring it in by first leading a high club. Since he has a sure entry with the ace of spades, he can then decide how to continue.

The lead of the king of clubs would have had a devastating effect here. One glance at dummy would have been enough to convince West of the futility of continuing the suit, and the shift to a low spade would have been obvious. That would have permitted the defenders to collect the first seven tricks.



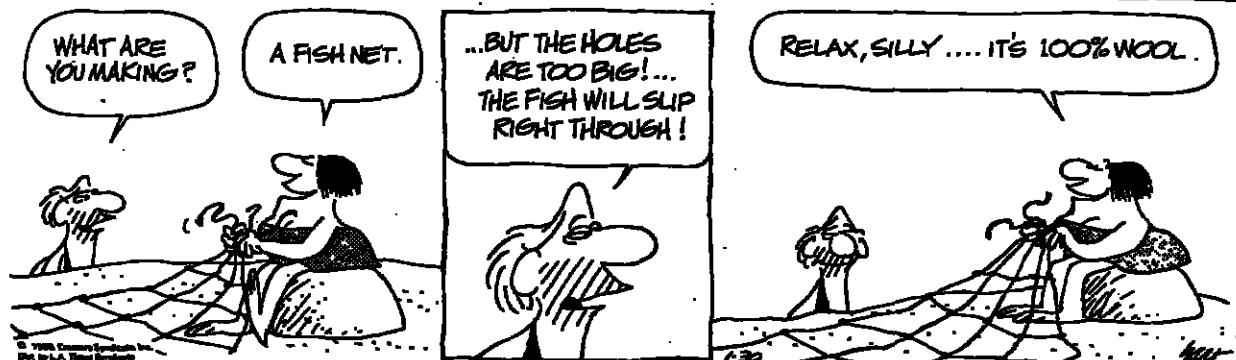
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will hear something very much to your liking. You should make sure you do not miss some vital detail. Try exercising a little more self-control. Be less hesitant.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

There is a need for speed but do not rush headlong into things. You will tend to be rather restless and should seek to calm yourself. Do not attempt to think of too much all at once. Be resilient.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

The Sun, Jupiter and Mercury are favourable to you and will help you to have a riproaring day. You should not attempt to do things by force. Meet trouble head-on, do not try to evade it. Be a little more generous.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

The Moon's better influence will help you to orientate yourself correctly. Before taking on any further commitments you should make sure you can meet them. Pay more attention to what is happening around you. Be cordial.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You will feel a little tense and apprehensive and should try to relax. The Moon's influence will help you to get a move on. Your children will be a source of joy to you. Be positive.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

The Moon's influence will tend to make you more aggressive, so try to steer away from confrontations. All kinds of exaggerations are to be avoided. You should show a little more goodwill and sympathy. Be cordial.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You have good reason for optimism but none for carelessness. You must avoid jumping to conclusions. You would do well to make a few concessions that look good and magnanimous. Be selective.



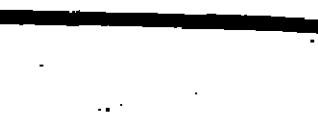
Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You will be in a better position to meet your commitments. A personal matter should be attended to without further delay. You should adopt a more positive attitude towards innovations. Be generous.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

The planetary influences are mixed and you should try to avoid doing anything involving inordinate risks. What seemed at first incredibly complicated will turn out to be far less so. Be resilient.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

Although you could well have some good luck, there is nothing to be gained by relying upon it. You should make sure you do not divulge something told to you in strict confidence. Keep your wits very much about you and show more goodwill. Be tolerant.

THE thing that disturbs me the most about the Republican race for President is how hostile the candidates are toward each other.

In order to convince voters that they are worthy of occupying the White House the candidates are distancing themselves from the President and using Ronald Reagan's mistakes to show why new blood is needed in Washington.

This is the way it seems to go every time I see the six GOP contenders on television.

"What do you think of the deficit, and if you became President what would you do about it?"

"I'm appalled by the waste and pork and cannot understand how anyone in his right mind could get us into such a mess."

"Do you blame Ronald Reagan for the huge debt?"

"No, I don't. But I do blame the people around him who never told him anything about it. That's why I want to be elected — so no one will pull the wool over a mediocre President's eyes again."

"Do you believe a Vice-President should warn his President when the chief is practicing voodoo economics?"

The Art Buchwald Column

Hail to somebody

"No, because there is nothing wrong with voodoo economics if done in moderation."

"I think the Vice-President should come clean with what he advised the President to do on the deficit and when he advised him to do it."

"All I can say is I gave the President the best advice he ever had, but I would never tell the public what it was."

"Did you tell the President to exchange the Stealth bomber and 100 MX missiles for hostages in Iran?"

"As Vice President I have no intention of revealing what I said to the President. Sure, he's made a lot of mistakes — but who hasn't? I'm not going to criticise him just because he is a lame duck. And while I'm on the subject I would like to see the senator's tax returns for the last 10 years so we know what kind of blind trust his wife has been in."

"I am not releasing my tax returns until you release

your notes on what you and the President said to Lyn Nofziger."

"Gentlemen, can I just say something? While you are arguing about Iran and blind trusts, the dollar is falling. I know who is responsible for the fall. His initials are R.R."

"Let's get on to the INF treaty with the Soviets. It's a bad treaty, and speaking as a Republican and a friend who has always admired the President, I say Ronald Reagan should be impeached for signing it."

"As Vice President I say there is nothing wrong with the treaty. Sure, it's flawed, but so is Sen. Dole's thinking on soybean reform. I've asked the senator to produce his financial records, and all he wants to do is impeach the President."

"Spoken like a true wimp. You wouldn't know a good INF treaty if you saw one. That's the trouble with being Vice President. You have had no experience on how to run a government."



"Get off my back, because I'm liable to shoot a Silkwood missile over your bow."

"Why did you say that?"

"I always get applause when I use it in my speeches. I think we should talk about schools."

"I'm for good schools." "So am I."

"I think when kids go to good schools they learn to read and write."

"The Republican Party must start anew. Do we want the old, tired ways of Bush and Reagan? The answer is no. We must reach out to the grass roots and have them tell our leaders. 'Washington does not understand America.' We have to get rid of those who work inside the Beltway and replace them with those of us who live at Trump Towers in Council Bluffs, Iowa."

1988, Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Arabic text at the bottom of the page.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Pan Am and Aeroflot in Soviet tourism venture

NEW YORK, Feb 10, (AP): Pan Am Corp. announced yesterday it has entered into joint tourism venture with Aeroflot, the Soviet airline, to bring US tourists to the Soviet Union.

Pan Am, which operates Pan American world airways, said the partnership with Aeroflot is designed to provide US tour operators with easier access to air and ground facilities for travel to the Soviet Union. An estimated 100,000 Americans are expected to visit the Soviet Union this year, Pan Am said.

Pan Am's commercial services subsidiary has joined with Aeroflot to form the Soviet-Pan Am Travel Effort, or Spate, which will market flights, hotels and other tourist facilities in the Soviet Union to US travel agents and tour operators. The new entity will be based in New York.

Operator
Pan Am named James L. Fannan, an executive of a tour operator company and a former marketing official with Pan Am, as the managing partner for Spate in the United States.

As part of the plan, Pan Am and Aeroflot will jointly market and operate new nonstop Boeing 747 flights between New York and Moscow, set to begin on May 14. The Pan Am planes will be staffed by Pan Am pilots and cabin crews, while Aeroflot will place flight attendants on board to serve as interpreters and provide "identification" for the Soviet carrier.

Of the 100,000 Americans expected to travel to the Soviet Union this year, about 15,000 will be handled by Spate, Fannan said in a statement.

Yeutter sees falling US trade deficits

WASHINGTON, Feb 10, (Reuters): US Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter today said he expected a reduction in the US trade deficit in 1988 and 1989, regardless of the December trade figures, due to be released on Friday.

Yeutter, appearing before Congress to urge swift passage of a US-Canada free trade pact, said more attention should be paid to long-range trends and the quarterly trade figures, not the monthly ones.

The Commerce Department last month reported a sharper than expected drop in the deficit for November, triggering an upturn in the securities markets.

The 1986 deficit was \$156.2 billion and the 1987 figure is expected to top \$170 billion.

Improvement
Asked about the trade deficit, Yeutter said: "I would never clearly say we're going to see improvement as the year rolls along, whether or not the next monthly figure is encouraging or not."

He said the trade figures would reflect the falling exchange rate of the dollar against other currencies, chiefly the Japanese yen and West German mark, and the improvement in the quality of US exports.

Ozal support fails to hold up Turkish lira

ISTANBUL, Feb 10, (Reuters): The Turkish lira dropped again today, ending a brief recovery after attempts by Prime Minister Turgut Ozal to support it.

The lira was trading at 1334 lira to the dollar and 785 lira to the mark in the Istanbul bazaar, weaker than when Ozal announced a support package on February 4.

"Tabiatikale has won," said a banner headline in left-leaning Cumhuriyet newspaper, referring to the Turkish name for the officially-rationed black market in the Istanbul bazaar.

Prices
The rates, nine per cent lower than the lira's best prices when it recovered on February 5, were edging close to record lows in January.

The February 4 support package included raising maximum lira deposit interest rates to 65 per cent and strong warnings to banks to keep to central bank foreign exchange rules.

Ozal's package also included strong incentives for exporters and banks to repatriate foreign currency earnings.

The rate in the bazaar was 17 per cent above the official central bank of 1145 for today.

The bazaar is a small market, but influential in that it directly affects the amount of commission that banks charge for their foreign currency transactions.

IRS steps up efforts

US guidelines for overseas taxpayers

By Jadranka Porter

THE US Internal Revenue Service has stepped up efforts to reach out to the Americans and "green card" holders living overseas with information that could save some of them thousands of dollars in tax and penalty payments.

The IRS set up last month a Gulf regional office in Riyadh where the permanent representative William Dennis Melton and an assistant will answer telephone and written inquiries.

Melton, currently visiting Kuwait, said that his office and the visiting representatives from the US will help overseas taxpayers with guidelines on what is expected of them to do and help them prepare 1987 US Federal Income Tax returns.

This has been increasingly necessary since the sweeping changes in the US income tax law, introduced last year, and of which many US tax payers are

not fully aware.

An IRS representative will be available at the US Embassy consular section in Kuwait on March 20, 21 and 22.

Those who will benefit from the information the most are the US citizens and "green card" holders who fail to file the tax return, out of negligence or because they believe they don't owe any money in taxes. Melton warns that all US citizens and green card holders must file a 1987 return by April 15, 1988.

Income

A major change for overseas taxpayers is the reduction in the foreign earned income exclusion from \$80,000 to 70,000 for 1987 and subsequent years. If those who earn \$70,000 or less fail to file a timely tax return, and thus forego claiming the benefit, they will lose it.

Thus income which could have been excluded may be fully taxed and penalty charges and interest



William Dennis Melton
This could amount to a great deal of money for someone who, had he filed the return, would have paid nothing, said Melton.
Foreign earned income

includes the salary plus the fringe benefits such as accommodation, a company car, school expenses for children, home leave. Interest and dividends do not qualify for the exclusion.

According to Melton there are many US taxpayers in the Gulf who earn \$70,000 and more.

Stressed

Another new feature of the complex US income tax system is that children above the age of five and other dependents must also have their own social security number. This is intended to stop taxpayers from claiming dependents they should not claim or who do not exist. Each dependent a taxpayer claims reduces the tax.

Melton stressed that green card holders and other aliens who were physically present in the US for a substantial period of time must file a tax return for 1987.

Some of the benefits that

American tax payers used to enjoy before the Tax reform Act of 1986 were withdrawn partly because of the low tax rates. But the rates are being lowered in 1988 while the items were repealed in 1987.

Among them are the exclusion for dividends, income averaging, the itemised deduction for state and local sales taxes, the 60 per cent for long term capital gains, the deduction for married couples when both are working and the credit for political contributions. "The changes brought more equity into the income tax system. More people will feel that the system is fair," said Melton.

Tax forms and publications are available from the American Embassy. Written inquiries should be addressed to: Revenue Service Representative, American Embassy — IRS, P.O. Box 9041, Riyadh 11413, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Tel: (00966) (1)488-3800 ext. 206.

Jewellery sales booming

Japan's consumer prices highest in the world: economists

TOKYO, Feb 10, (UPI): The Japanese may be burdened with the world's highest consumer prices; but they are becoming avid and sophisticated buyers of international goods ranging from diamonds to doughnuts.

Despite incomes among the highest in the world, the prohibitive cost of land has made prospects of home ownership so dim that many people — especially the young — are spending large sums on food, gadgets, jewellery and hobbies.

Although savings rates remain high in Japan — 16 per cent of income, compared with about 6 per cent in the United States — the government is encouraging people to buy more imports to cut its worldwide trade surplus and to spend more at home to stimulate the domestic economy.

The rising yen — up some 60 per cent against the dollar since October 1985 — has helped boost household spending which has jumped 18.5 per cent since 1985 to a monthly average of \$1,900.

The flag carriers of this spend-

ing-spree mentality may be the young, the first generation to grow up amid the affluence spawned by postwar economic growth.

Importance

But the importance placed on leisure time, material goods and spending by the 'shibunru', or 'new home race', may not differ that much from their parents, who are becoming accustomed to the fruits of their own labour. Even the man who highlighted the 'new human race' in magazine articles last year believes the difference between today's young people and their parents is more style than substance.

"Most of the people in this society think money is very important," said Chikushi Tetsuya, editorial writer for the Asahi Shimbun newspaper. "There is no difference between the younger and older generations. Both of them are so eager to buy stock and play the money game."

An unorthodox indication of what the Japanese are buying

may be found in what they are throwing away.

On garbage collection days many streets are lined with workable televisions, stereos, toasters and other household items — discarded because their owners have purchased newer models.

Many foreign residents of Japan have furnished their houses with such castoffs.

Jewellery sales are booming. Purchases of diamonds from South Africa and gold chains from Italy increased sharply in the last two years, according to the jewellery merchants and customs officials. In the first half of 1987 diamond shipments to Japan leaped 60 per cent despite a 23 per cent price increase for a 1-carat diamond.

Plants

Along with a thirst for consumer goods, many Japanese are developing a lifestyle that lessens the burden of hectic work schedules and allows them to live a lifestyle that suits citizens of one of the world's wealthiest nations.

One trend in overcrowded Tokyo is health clubs such as 'Tipness', a modern showcase of parquet floors, leafy indoor plants, loud disco music — and a waiting list of 500 young people who consider the \$1,000 annual membership fee a bargain.

In aerobics classes, men and women sport stylish leotards that range from \$43 to \$65 at the club's boutique. A typical outfit on display costs \$225.

Attitude

Akihito Arikawa, 19, a university student who lives with his parents, said the membership fee at Tipness is 'cheap' compared with other health clubs in Tokyo.

His parents pay his tuition and living expenses, while he works part-time to pay for his hobbies, which include cycling — he owns a professional-class bicycle — movies, clothes and his club membership.

He said his parents' attitude towards money differs from his only in what they like to buy. His father, an avid gourmet, recently

spent \$750 on two dozen rare mushrooms.

Another club member, Masumi Matsumoto, 32, is a graphic designer who earns \$3,600 a month and spends most of her money collecting contemporary Japanese and American art. She spends about \$3,000 on an average piece.

Matsumoto said she and her husband already have given up on buying a house. Instead, she and many of her friends are buying cars.

Economists say consumer prices in Japan are the highest in the world. But falling prices of food imports due to the higher yen are creating a nation of cosmopolitan gourmets.

Food imports grew in volume by 17.9 per cent in 1986 over the previous year, says the quasi-governmental trade promotion group Jetro. Meat imports increased by 34.4 per cent, man-gos by 64.4 per cent and wine by 48.8 per cent. Non-alcoholic beverages shot up by 390 per cent.

World Business Summary

Fed likely to vote to ease rates, say economists

NEW YORK, Feb 10, (Reuters): The Federal Open Market Committee, the policy-making arm of the US central bank, will likely vote this week to ease monetary policy to keep the nation's economy from faltering, economists said today. Few are predicting such an overt move as a cut in the Federal Reserve's discount rate, the rate at which it lends money to commercial banks. Such a move could undermine the dollar in the foreign exchange markets, they say. But many believe the Fed could tolerate an easing in the federal funds rate, at which banks lend each other overnight reserves. Almost all the indicators point to a severe weakening in the economy," said Mickey Levy, senior economist with Fidelity Bank in Philadelphia. He predicted the committee would vote to ease rates at a two-day meeting beginning later today.

"It's important to avoid a recession and not just for political reasons," Levy said.

Whatever is decided at the closed-door meeting, the jittery financial markets will not hear of it until the notes of the committee's meeting are published some time next month. Reagan administration officials have made it clear they would welcome a move by the Fed to ease credit to lower business costs and prod the sluggish economy along.

The White House's chief economic adviser, Beryl Sprinkel, has publicly suggested the Fed may be keeping too tight a rein on the money supply, and that lower interest rates would help the economy.

US interest rates fell after the Fed poured funds into the banking system right after the October 19 stock market crash. But since then, the central bank has held a steady monetary policy. Economists say the Fed is now trying to balance concerns about the economy with a need to support the dollar. "Periodic attacks on the dollar may temporarily constrain policymakers and again force more reliance on international coordination," said Ward McCarthy, chief economist with Merrill Lynch capital markets. The only way the United States could lower interest rates without undermining its currency is if the countries with the strongest currencies and economies — West Germany and Japan — agreed to lower their interest rates at the same time.

Environment director appointed

WORLD Bank president Barber B. Conable this week announced the appointment of Kenneth Piddington as director of the Bank's recently established Environment Department. Piddington is currently Director-General of New Zealand's Department of Conservation. He will assume his new position in April. Piddington "will play a key role in the top priority area of developing strategies to integrate environmental considerations into our overall lending, policy and research activities," according to Conable. In an effort to further strengthen the Bank's environmental work, as well as its scientific and technological approaches in many of its development sectors, Conable also announced the appointment as senior adviser of N. Erik Arrhenius, currently professor of Management and director of the Institute for the Management of Natural Resources at the University of Stockholm.

Citing the importance of environmental issues to the Bank, Conable noted that "we recently established an Environmental Department, as well as environmental divisions in each of our regional operations vice presidencies. We are exceptionally fortunate in being able to attract Piddington and Arrhenius to strengthen our increased effort in this area." Conable added that "the World Bank must be a strong force in the environmental arena. We must be prepared to assist our member nations in ensuring that environmental considerations receive careful attention if sustainable development is to be secured."

In 1980 he was appointed his country's first commissioner for the environment and in 1986 he became the director-general of the Department of Conservation — a single department created at that time from separate environmental agencies.

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- Has been awarded the first World Bank aided contract worth Rs. 27 crores for drilling oil wells, using four Mobile Rigs, in Gujarat.
- The eight oil drilling rigs of the Company ensure a regular gross revenue of Rs. 50 crores a year, when all the rigs become fully operational.

CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

- A leader in its field, this marine construction division undertakes major turnkey projects such as ports and harbours, oil & gas terminals, storage silos, power stations, etc. on its own and in association with international giants.
- A track record of completing large projects to strict time schedules.
- Among various other achievements, this division has constructed the country's first Offshore Supply Base at Nhava, near Bombay, worth Rs. 35 crores.
- This division, with a long-standing specialised edge, is poised to take its due share in an activity which is of national importance with about 40% of the country's annual Plan Outlay going to this sector.

OFFSHORE DIVISION

- In a field over a decade old, flourishing Offshore Engineering Industry, the first major private sector entrant in India.
- Capable of offshore oilfield installation, modification, maintenance and other such gigantic mechanical engineering feats normally done by foreign contractors.

- Has won international recognition for winning and successfully executing the country's largest submarine gas pipeline contract, from Bombay Offshore to Hazira — a U.S. Dollars 120 million contract — in association with a leading foreign company.
- Presently executing the prestigious Rs. 40 crore Offshore Oilfield Platform modification at Bombay High.
- With the Government's thrust on indigenousisation of offshore activities, the potential of this division is evident. The total Plan Outlay for only offshore drilling by 1985 is approximately Rs. 900 crores.

STEEL DIVISION

- Setting up the world's largest and India's first gas-based hot briquetted sponge iron project with a capacity of 8,80,000 Tonnes per annum. In association with GIC.
- Fast coming up at Hazira, Gujarat — the landfall confluence point of major gas fields in India. Project expected to be completed by early 1990, in a record 24 months span.
- A state-of-the-art plant set up at a most economical cost of Rs. 305 crores with guaranteed performance parameters. In collaboration with Linde Corporation, U.S.A. and Voest-Alpine A.G., Austria, world leaders in their fields.
- Assured of natural gas, iron ore and pellets — the main raw materials. Full captive power.
- Hot briquetting is the latest technology in the world and is now being introduced in India. Hot briquetted sponge iron is a better substitute for iron scrap to make steel.
- The plant will replace scrap/sponge iron imports by approximately Rs. 150 crores every year.

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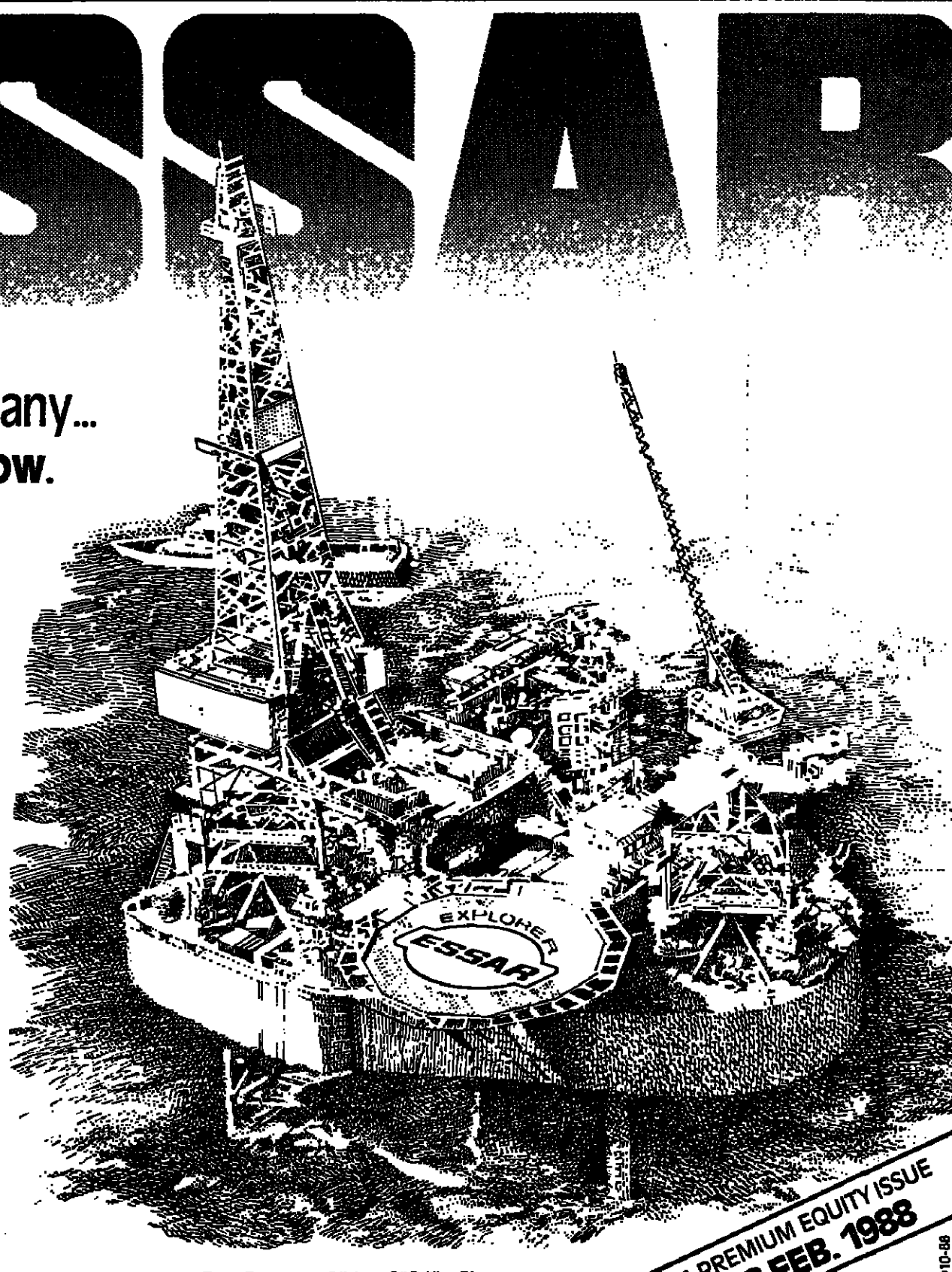
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18 FEB. 1988

CLEA-910-38

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11-12, 1988

LONDON (Alpha Stocks)		LONDON (Beta Stocks)	
NAME	LAST	NAME	CLOSE
ABBEY LIFE	246.0	A.B. ELECT	354.0
ALD LYONS	334.0	APV PLC	117.0
AMSTRAD	131.0	AARONSON	120.0
ARGYLE GP	186.0	AAH HDLG	286.0
ASDA MF1	164.0	ADDISON G	86.0
A B FOODS	287.0	ADVEST GP	280.0
BAA PP	105.0	ALEX MKW	171.0
BTR	247.0	ALD TR B	216.0
BAT INDS	429.0	ALLIANCE	770.0
BARCLAYS	460.0	ALCO COLL	125.0
BASS	765.0	ALCO PLAN	50.0
BEAZER	183.0	AMARI PLC	143.0
BEECHAMS	460.0	AMEC PLC	345.0
BET ORD	234.0	AMER TRUS	345.0
BICC PLC	320.0	AMERSHAM	481.0
BLUE ARRL	91.4	ANGLIA TV	417.0
BLUE CIRC	415.0	ANISBACHER	68.0
BOC GP	390.0	U-APP HOL	308.0
BOOTS CO	225.0	APRIOT	104.0
BPB INDS	265.0	ARMSTRONG	128.0
BR COMM	89.75	ARMSTRONG	128.0
BR AIRWAY	156.0	ANGLO O'S	387.0
BR AEROSP	343.0	AQUAS. A.	72.0
BR GAS PP	132.5	ASHLEY L	116.0
B.P. NEW	258.0	ATWOODS	277.0
BR TELCOM	240.0	AUTO SEC	245.0
BRITOL	495.0	AVIS EUR	295.0
BUNZL	165.0	AVON RUBS	596.0
BURMAN OL	475.0	BSG INTL	62.0
BURTON	220.0	BAILL JAP	434.0
CABLESWIR	337.0	BAKER IT	65.0
CADBURYS	236.0	BAK OF SCO	565.0
COATS VVI	243.0	BARKER DO	142.0
CORN UNI	313.0	BART DEV	182.0
CORN GOLD	770.0	B. MENHILL	152.0
COOKSONS	538.0	BEJAN GP	176.0
COURTAULD	308.0	BELMAY	224.0
DALGETY	305.0	BENROSE	214.0
DEE CP	182.0	BENLOX HD	43.0
DIXONS	182.0	BENNETT +F	37.0
ENG CHINA	389.0	BENTLIS	175.0
ENTER OIL	289.0	BENTSFORD	321.0
FERRANTI	80.0	BERKELEY	266.0
FISONS	48.75	BRKLY HAY	24.0
GEN ACCIO	805.0	BLACK LE 2	20.0
GEN ELEC	148.0	BOISE MAS	25.0
GLAXO	920.0	BODDINGTO	145.0
GRANDMA	326.0	BOOKER PL	349.0
GLOBE	134.0	BORTHWICK	49.0
GRAND MET	454.0	BOUYER	354.0
GUS A	045.0	BOUYORP	176.0
GUARD RYL	855.0	BRAMMER	220.0
GKN	293.0	BRENT CHE	130.0
GUINNESS	76.00	BRENT WGR	305.0
HANMER A	134.5	BRIDON	138.0
HAKER SID	467.0	BRITANNIC	003.0
HAMLEY	101.0	BR ASSETS	64.0
HILLSDOWN	277.0	BR LND CO	263.0
		BR VITA	423.0
		BRITON E	236.0

World Indices

INDEX	LATEST	1/PREV-DAYS/2	PREV-OR	PREV-YR
FT 30 ORD	1368.4	1355.9	1349.0	1373.3
FT 500 SHR	971.4	964.9	958.7	957.6
FT ALL SHR	81.19	875.91	870.19	870.22
FT GOV SEC	88.63	88.43	88.17	88.49
FT GOLD MN	259.0	254.5	249.0	302.1
FT MINES F	394.42	390.33	385.04	450.65
FT OIL	1752.2	1760.0	1733.7	1663.6
FT MLD DLR	115.98	115.93	116.27	115.04
FT MLD-STG	98.46	97.94	98.20	90.79
FT MLD-LOC	103.84	103.53	103.95	99.08

London Stock Market Report

U.K. EQUITIES CONTINUE MIXED IN LATE TRADING. LONDON, FEB 10 - SHARES CONTINUED MIXED IN LATE TRADING BUT OPERATORS WERE TO A SMALL EXTENT ENCOURAGED BY THE HIGHER WALL STREET OPENING, DEALERS SAID.

AT 1530 GMT THE FTSE 100 WAS UP 6.2 POINTS AT 1,713.4 AFTER A LOW OF 1,704.3 AND A HIGH OF 1,716.2. VOLUME AT 1500 GMT WAS A MODEST 249 MLN SHARES, WITH INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS AGAIN KEEPING OUT OF THE MARKET BECAUSE OF CONCERN OVER CURRENT U.K. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, PARTICULARLY THE FORD STRIKE, AND THE NEAR TERM DIRECTION OF DOMESTIC INTEREST RATES.

FRIDAY'S PUBLICATION OF THE U.K. RETAIL PRICE INDEX AND THE U.S. DECEMBER TRADE FIGURES CONTRIBUTED TO THE NERVOUS TONE. DEALERS EXPECT THE RECENT LOW VOLUME TO CONTINUE AHEAD OF FRIDAY, WITH THE U.S. DECEMBER TRADE FIGURES FORECAST TO SHOW A DEFICIT OF AROUND 13.75 BILLION DLRS COMPARED WITH 13.2 BILLION IN NOVEMBER.

THE U.K. RETAIL PRICE INDEX, BRITAIN'S MAIN MEASURE OF INFLATION, IS EXPECTED TO SHOW A SMALL MONTHLY INCREASE. DEALERS SAID THE FIGURE IS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE IN THE CURRENT CLIMATE, WITH MANY INVESTORS WORRIED THAT INTEREST RATES WILL SOON HAVE TO RISE TO HELP CONTAIN INFLATION.

THE BENCHMARK THREE MONTH STERLING INTERBANK RATE CURRENTLY STANDS AT 9-1/4 PCT COMPARED WITH NINE PCT U.K. BASE RATES.

London Gold

LONDON, FEB 10 - GOLD BULLION SLIPPED BACK THIS AFTERNOON, TRACKING A DOWNTURN FROM THE HIGHS IN NEW YORK, ALTHOUGH THE MARKET STILL CLOSED UP ON TUESDAY.

THE METAL FINISHED A MODERATELY ACTIVE DAY AT 442.00/442.50 DLRS AN OUNCE, DOWN FROM THE OPENING 443.75/444.25 BUT ABOVE LAST NIGHT'S 439.75/440.25 DLRS CLOSE.

DEALERS SAID MARKET ATTENTION TODAY FOCUSED INCREASINGLY ON UPCOMING U.S. TRADE DATA AND THE POSSIBLE IMPACT ON THE DOLLAR. TO SOME EXTENT THIS AFTERNOON'S DOWNTURN WAS INFLUENCED BY A STEADIER DOLLAR, ALTHOUGH OVERHEAD RESISTANCE AROUND THE HIGHS OF 445 DLRS WAS ALSO NOTICEABLE, THEY ADDED.

London Money Market

LONDON, FEB 10 - A SHARP RISE IN STERLING'S VALUE AGAINST THE DOLLAR TOOK SOME OF THE RECENT UPWARD PRESSURE OFF INTEREST RATES AND LEFT A CALMER TONE TO THE MARKET TODAY, DEALERS SAID. STERLING ROSE 1-1/2 CENTS AGAINST THE DOLLAR AND ITS TRADE-WEIGHTED INDEX ENDED UP HALF A POINT AT 74.4.

THE POUND WAS ALSO FIRM AGAINST THE MARK, WHICH IS SEEN AS THE CRUCIAL EXCHANGE RATE AS FAR AS THE INTEREST RATE OUTLOOK IS CONCERNED, AND THE OVERALL PERFORMANCE OF STERLING CAUSED INTERBANK LEVELS TO LEAVE 1/16 OR 1/8 POINT.

THE KEY THREE MONTH RATE ENDED DOWN 1/8 AT 9-5/16 3/16, REDUCING MARKET PRESSURE FOR A RISE IN BASE RATES FROM NINE PCT.

Foreign Exchange

DLR	STG	DMK	FFR	OPEN
DLR	1.7590/95	1.6910/20	5.7105/25	NOON
STG	1.6869/694	2.9725/60	10.0570/0495	FIX
DMK	3.300/300	337.300/300	24.23/26	FIX
FFR	1.3835/3853	2.4324/4355	81.85/95	1300
HFL	1.9005	3.3385	112.30	FIX
ECU	1.22108	0.693994	2.06222	NOON
SDR	1.35348	0.77980	2.30484	CLSE
YEN	128.80	226.38/71		NOON
SDR RATES	09/02/1988	OTHERS	10/02/1988	

NEW YORK

NAME	OPEN	MID-DAY
ATSCOM	30/6	30/5
ATLANTIC R	77/0	77/0
AAR CORP	19/2	18/4
AETNA LIFE	46/5	46/3
ALASKA AIR	14/4	14/3
ALCAN ALUM	24/4	24/1
ALCO STANO	20/6	20/4
AM CAP SEC	24/2	24/2
AMER CYANA	44/4	43/6
AM FAMILY	13/2	13/2
AM HOM PRO	75/0	75/1
AM STORES	56/1	56/3
AMER T T	29/3	29/3
AMAX	16/4	16/6
AMOCO CP	74/2	74/2
AMP INC	45/7	45/6
AMPCO PITT	14/0	14/1
AMR CORP	34/7	34/7
AMR GEN CO	33/4	33/5
AMROD HESS	27/0	27/0
ANTHEM ELE	9/0	9/0
APACHE CP	8/4	8/4
APACHE PEY	4/1	4/2
APAC INC	10/0	10/0
ASARCO INC	20/3	20/0
ASHLAND OIL	56/2	56/0
ATLS CORP	30/0	30/0
AVERTY INT	19/6	19/7
AVNET INC	24/5	24/4
AVON PRODS	24/0	23/6
BCE INC	30/0	30/0
BELL-HON A	61/3	61/3
BELL-HON B	0	0
BELTZ STEEL	16/5	16/5
BEVERLY	7/0	6/7
BK BOSTON	25/0	25/0
BK BOSTN-A	49/2	49/4
BK N-YORK	30/4	30/4
BK TR-NY	35/1	35/3
BANKAMER	8/2	8/2
BANKAM SPEC	6/4	6/3
BOEING	46/4	45/7
BOISE CASC	40/6	40/1
BORDEN	50/0	49/7
BORG-WARNR	0	45/5
BOWATER	28/5	28/4
BR TELECOM	41/7	41/1
BRIGGS-STR	28/7	28/7
BRIST-MYER	43/4	43/3
BRUNSWICK	17/3	17/1
BURNDY CP	14/4	14/3
C 3 INC	11/0	11/0
CABOT CORP	31/6	31/6
CAESARS INC	21/7	21/4
CALORIT FRI	19/4	19/5
CARLISLE	14/4	14/4
CART-COOK	58/6	58/4
CATERPILLA	21/1	21/2
CBS	159/7	159/6
CENTEL CP	37/6	37/2
CENTRO DAT	2/3	2/2
CHAMP INTL	31/5	32/0
CHAMP SPA	11/5	11/4
CHARTER CO	3/7	3/6
CHASE MANH	22/4	22/4
CHEMED CP	33/7	33/5
CHEMICO NY	21/7	21/7
CHEVRON	44/4	44/3
CHRYSLER	25/0	25/1
CHUBB CORP	57/4	57/4
CHUR FR CH	7/3	7/3
CIGNA CORP	48/0	48/0
CIN HILLAR	21/1	21/3
CIR CIT ST	22/7	22/7
CIRCLE K	12/4	12/6
CITICORP	20/0	20/0
CLARK EDDI	24/0/23	23/6
CLOCK	28/6	28/5
CORPALL RES	1/4	1/4
CORPALL SP	26/4	26/2
CNO PACIFIC	16/4	16/2
COACHMAN	6/5	6/5
COASTAL	28/3	28/2
COCA COLA	36/0	36/1
COLECO	3/3	3/3
COLEMAN CO	34/0	34/2
COLGATE	41/0	41/0
COLT INDS	11/6	11/7
COLUMB GAS	32/4	32/4
COMB EDIS	29/6	29/7
CONAGRA	26/4	26/3
CONS ED-NY	44/5	44/5
CONTINENTA	40/4	40/3
CONTL ILLN	*10	*10
CONTEL CP	33/4	33/3
CONTEL DATA	21/5	21/4
COOPER T-R	30/2	30/2
CORPUS CO	10/5	10/6
CORNING GL	33/3	33/0
CRANE	22/5	22/3
CRAY RES	76/0	76/6
CULINET	6/0	5/7
DALLIED IND	7/2	7/1
DATAPoint	27/3	27/3
DATAPoint	3/7	3/7
DAYTON HUB	33/4	33/3
DIG EQUIP	117/0	116/4
DEERE CO	38/4	37/4
DELTA AIR	43/6	43/6
DIAMOND SH	9/1	9/0
DIEBOLD	43/0	42/6
DISNEY W	55/6	55/6
DOVER CORP	58/2	58/3
DOM CHEM	79/4	78/6
DOM JONES	29/3	28/5
DRESSER	27/0	27/0
DUKES POWER	28/0	27/7
DUN BRAD	49/3	49/3
DUPONT	49/3	49/3
DYNESNE	13/0	12/7
DYNAMICS	17/2	17/2
E SYSTEMS	27/3	27/7
EASTMAN K	41/2	41/1
EATON CORP	69/6	69/6
EMERY AIR	6/5	6/3
EMPHAT CP	19/6	19/7
ETHYL CP	20/3	20/0
EXXON	41/0	40/7
FAM DOL ST	8/7	8/7
FED EXPRESS	40/4	40/3
FIELDCREST	18/6	18/6
FIN CORP-AM	1/4	1/5
FIRESTONE	33/1	33/1
FMC CORP	26/0	25/6
FORD MOTOR	41/4	41/3
FORT MONAR	36/4	36/1
FOXBORO CO	24/3	24/4
FRCHLD IND	8/3	8/3
FST BANK	23/0	22/6
FST BOSTON	23/3	23/3
FST CHICAGO	23/2	23/2
FST CTU BK	*11	*12
FST NAT BK	33/7	33/6
GAF CORP	47/2	47/5
GANNET CP	34/4	34/3

GALVESTON	1/5	1/5	MOTOROLA	42/1	41/4	SEAGULL EN	16/4	16/5
GATX CORP	40/7	40/2	MRSH-MCLEN	49/7	49/4	SEALED AIR	38/5	38/5
GCA CP	2/1	2/2	MURPHY OIL	28/7	28/6	SEARS ROE	34/4	34/4
GEARHART	15	15	NAT INTERG	17/1	16/7	SERV CORP	23/7	24/0
GEN DATA	3/5	3/5	NBI CORP	3/6	3/6	SF STN PAC	44/1	44/3
GENL DYNAM	52/6	52/4	NCR CORP	57/5	57/5	SHELL TRAN	72/7	73/0
GENL ELECT	42/3	42/4	NEW ENG EL	24/0	23/6	SHER PLOU	53/4	53/0
GEN HOST	8/7	8/7	NEW PLA RE	14/0	14/0	SHERW-WILL	28/4	28/2
GEN HOSHR	8/7	8/6	NEWELL CO	34/0	34/0	SINGER CO	49/5	49/3
GEN INSTR	27/4	27/2	NEWMONT MI	32/0	31/6	SMITH INT	7/0	6/7
GEN MILLS	48/5	48/6	NEWMONT GLD	32/0	31/6	SMITHK BEC	55/3	55/3
GENL MOTR	63/4	62/6	NICOR INC	25/2	25/1	SONY CP	37/1	35/6
GEN SIGNAL	40/7	41/1	NL INDS	6/3	6/3	SOURCE CAP	36/6	36/5
GENCORP	19/0	19/0	NOBLE AFF	13/0	13/0	SOUTHERN	23/1	23/1
GENRAD INC	7/3	7/4	NORD RESOU	7/4	7/4	SPERRY CP	13/6	13/7
GEO INTL	4/3	4/3	NORTHPRO	29/1	29/2	SQUARE D	51/3	51/3
GEORGI-PAC	35/0	35/2	NORTON	43/3	43/5	SQUIBB	62/4	62/6
GERBER SCIE	15/4	15/2	NOVO IND	26/0	25/7	STALEY AE	89/1	88/7
GILETT	38/4	38/4	NUCOR CORP	37/7	37/7	STERL DRUG	89/1	88/7
GLOBAL MAR	1/5	1/5	OAK INDS	1/0	1/1	SUN CO INC	54/0	53/6
GOLDEN NUG	9/7	9/6	OCCIDENTAL	26/4	26/4	SUNDRAM	44/6	44/6
GOODRICH	39/5	39/4	OCEAN DRIL	17/6	17/6	SUNSHINE H	3/5	3/5
GOODYEAR	55/4	54/1	ODGEN CORP	30/4	30/0	SUPER VAL	19/0	18/7
GOULD INC	11/1	11/1	OH ED CO	20/4	20/3	SW AIRLINE	15/3	15/3
GRACE WR	25/3	25/5	OHIO MATT	15/5	15/3	SW GAS	22/4	22/4
GRAINGER	54/2	54/4	OLIN CORP	41/4	41/4	SWN BELL	37/5	37/3
GREYHOUND	26/6	26/5	OMNICARE	6/1	6/1	TANDY CORP	34/4	34/2
GRIOTER	11/1	11/1	ORION PICT	17/2	16/1	TECO ENERG	23/5	23/5
GRUPPAM	18/7	19/0	PAIN ME W	16/1	16/1	TEKTRONIX	23/3	23/5
GULF RES-C	12/0	11/7	PAN AM A	2/6	2/7	TELEDYNE	314/4	312/0
GULF-WESTN	71/0	71/0	PAN ME V B	25/2	25/2	TELEX CORP	49/1	49/2
HALLIBURTO	30/0	29/4	PARKER ELM	0	14/6	TERADYNE	12/7	12/7
HALLWOOD	20/4	19/6	PARKER DRI	3/3	3/4	TESORO PET	11/2	11/2
HANNA MIN	21/2	21/1	PARKER HAN	33/7	33/7	TEX AMER B	4/0	4/0
HARRIS CP	27/4	27/4	PATROCK PET	4/0	4/0	TEX EAS TR	26/2	26/2
HARTMARX	24/0	23/7	PAYLSS CSH	13/0	12/7	TEXACO INC	37/2	37/0
HECLA MIN	12/3	12/3	PULLMAN CO	5/3	5/3	TEXAS IND	30/7	31/0
HEILEHN BR	49/1	49/2	PC INDB-96	0	91/4	TEXAS INST	44/6	43/6
HEINZ HJ	30/4	30/2	PENN CENTR	42/6	42/5	TEXTRON	24/0	23/6
HEL CURTIS	27/7	27/6	PENNEY JC	43/3	42/2	TIDEWATER	6/3	6/3
HELM-PAYNE	20/7	20/6	PENNZOIL	66/0	65/7	TIGER INTL	10/1	9/7
HERCULES	47/0	47/1	PEOPLES EN	18/2	18/1	TIME INCOR	88/0	87/2
HESSCO	0	3/7	PEPSICO	33/7	34/1	TIMKEN	58/0	58/0
HEW-PACK	55/0	54/4	PERKIN-ELM	23/6	23/7	TORCHMARK	28/3	28/2
HXCEL CP	39/2	38/0	PIFZER	52/7	52/4	TOSCO CORP	2/1	2/1
HILLENBRND	25/5	25/5	PHILPS DOD	36/0	35/3	TOYS R US	34/0	33/6
HILTN HTLS	78/0	77/7	PHILIP MOR	88/1	87/7	TRANASER	33/7	33/5
HITACHI	97/0	96/4	PHILLIPS PE	14/1	14/0	TRANSCO EN	24/6	24/6
HOMESTEAK	14/0	14/0	PHILLSBRU	33/7	33/5	TRANSCO EN	24/1	24/2
HOND-HARM	14/16	14/16	PINNACLE W	39/2	39/2	TRANSCO EX	6/7	6/6
HOLIDAY C	24/0	23/7	PITTS-BOWES	39/2	39/2	TRAVELLERS	37/4	37/2
HOME DEPOT	20/2	20/2	PLATON	10/1	10/2	TRINITY INC	25/4	25/3
HOME FED S	25/1	25/1	PLM FINANC	0	42/0	TW CORP	15/4	15/4
HONDA MOTR	107/5	106/0	POLYDANC	28/0	28/0	TWA	22/0	22/0
HONEYWELL	59/6	59/4	PRIME COMP	16/6	16/5	U PACIFIC	55/6	56/0
HOUGHTON MI	26/7	26/4	PRIME INNS	34/6	34/5	UTD BRAND	45/2	45/4
HOUSTON TM	32/5	32/5	PRIMERICA	28/1	27/7	UTD TECH	36/4	36/3
HUGHES SUP	26/0	25/7	PROCTER GN	82/0	81/6	UNILEVER	57/4	57/6
HUMANA INC	20/3	20/3	PUEBLO INT	24/5	24/5	UNION CAMP	33/1	33/3
HUTTON EF	30/0	29/7	PUGET SP-L	19/6	19/7	UNION CARB	21/4	21/4
IBM	109/4	108/6	PULTE HOME	9/0	9/0	US SHOE	15/0	14/4
ICI INDUST	32/2	32/0	QUAKER AOT	42/3	42/2	USX CORP	30/2	30/2
ICN PHARM	6/2	6/3	QUAKER COR	19/2	19/1	US WEST	5/0	5/0
ILL PUR CO	23/7	23/6	QUANTUM CH	71/2	70/1	USAIT GRP	33/6	34/6
INDO LTO	18/2	18/0	RALS PURIN	67/3	67/1	VALERO EN	3/3	3/3
INGRESS-ILR	34/0	34/0	RAMADA INN	6/1	6/2	VALLEY IND	2/3	2/3
INTL FINER	44/7	44/7	RANCHO OIL	16/3	16/3	VARCO INTL	4/6	4/6
JOBSON-JHS	78/0	78/0	RATCHEN	42	41/7	VARIAN ASS	25/7	25/6
K HART CP	31/4	31/4	RAYMARK	7/1	7/0	V UNION	3/0	2/7
KAISER ALM	10/0	10/0	RAYTHEON	67/3	67/4	V PNT PEPP	29/2	29/2
KELLOGG	51/1	51/1	REGAL INTL	13	12	WAINCO OIL	5/4	5/3
KERR-MCGEE	35/1	35/3	REYNOLD ME	38/6	37/2	WAL MART	26/0	26/0
KEYSTONE	16/2	16/2	RJR NABISC	47/7	47/0	WALGREEN	31/0	30/7
KIDDE INC	0	63/0	ROCKES G-E	16/6	16/4	WARNER COM	30/3	30/3
KIMB-CLARK	50/2	50/1	ROCKAWAY C	7/7	7/6	WARNER LAN	73/7	73/5
KLM R D AI	16/4	16/5	ROCKWELL	17/7	18/0	WASTE MAN	34/2	34/3
KRAFT INC	55/0	55/0	ROHR INDS	20/2	20/0	WASH GAS L	23/4	23/3
KROGER CP	29/2	29/2	ROLLINS EN	19/6	19/5	WENDY INTL	6/7	7/0
LEAR PETRL	2/0	2/1	ROLLINS IN	15/1	15/0	WEST CO	16/1	16/1
LEIHAN	11/5	11/5	ROPER CORP	19/6	19/6	WESTINGHSE	48/6	48/7
LENNAR	19/0	19/1	ROPER GRP	49/0	49/0	WILLIAMS C	24/0	24/1
LILLY ELI L	73/1	72/6	ROMAN COMP	6/7	6/7	WILLIAMS E	4/5	4/6
LINCOLN RAND	43/6	43/6	ROUL DUTCH	11/10	11/0	WINNEBAGO	8/2	8/2
LITTON IND	73/6	73/6	RYDER SYST	27/2	26/3	WINDMILL	42/0	41/6
LOCKED	30/5	30/4	RYLA GRP	16/3	16/3	WOODWORTH	4/0	4/0
LOTTITE CP	29/3	29/1	S DIEG G-E	33/5	33/5	WORLDCORP	6/7	6/7
LOEWS CORP	69/0	68/7	SABINE	13/6	13/6	WRIGLEY	72/0	71/6
LOW-METTLE	17/5	17/5	SALOMON	21/0	21/1	WYLE LABS	9/4	9/4
LOWE STAR	28/2	27/6	SARA LEE	39/5	39/0	XEROX CP	54/0	53/6
LOWES	18/6	18/5	SCHLUMBERG	33/0	32/6	XTRA INC	27/1	27/4
NMST ASS	2/5	2/4	SCOTT PPR	68/4	68/4	ZAPATA	3/1	3/1
N MARIETTA	45/3	45/1	SCOTTS	13/7	13/7	ZAYRE CORP	18/0	18/0
NA COM INC	10/2	10/2	SE BANK CO	22/7	23/0	ZENITH EL	15/0	15/0
NACHTILLAN	58/2	58/5	SEAGRAN CO	53/2	53/0	ZERO	14/7	14/6

International Bond Highlights

London — Mercedes Benz Credit Corporation is issuing a 100 mln dlr Eurobond due February 24, 1995 paying 8-1/2 pct and priced at 100-3/4 pct. (RTWX 1153)

Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local inter-bank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	4-1/4	4-5/8
3 months	4-5/16	4-11/16
6 months	4-1/2	4-15/16
1 year	4-5/8	5-1/16

	PR.CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GNFC	GRAY120	31.75	31.50	31.25	MODALKALI	--	--	--
									NARWADNIT	--	--	--
ACC	159	158	155	GSFC		111	111.50	108.50	ORKAY	22.75	22.50	23.00
AHMADV	--	--	--	GUJPETRO	24.50	--	--	--	PREMATO	26.50	26.25	25.50
AHMADV400	--	--	--	GMALITORO	90	91	87.50	80	RAYMOND C	--	--	--
ANDHRA CEM	9.50	9.25	9.50	HINDALCO	122	122	119	RAYMONDCL	47	46	46	
ANDHRA VLY	142.50	--	--	HYD LAMPS	--	--	--	RELANCE	103	103	101	
BAJAJ AUTO	435	435	432.50	IND ORG	18.50	19	18.25	SPIC	32	32	31.75	
BAR RAYOR	155	147.50	150	INDRAYOR	49	49	48	STD HILLS	255	250	245	
BOY DTYING	124.50	125	125	INDROL	186.25	186.25	181.25	STONED CAR	14.50	--	--	
BSE INDEX	433.44	432.44	432.44	ITC	33.50	32.50	32.50	STEEL PUR	--	--	--	
CENTURYSPB	647.50	645	637.50	ITC CO	--	--	--	TATA PUR	--	--	--	
COLGATE	197.50	197.50	195.50	JK 120	--	--	--	TATACHEN	64	63	62.50	
DEEPAKFERT	30.50	29.50	30	JKSYNTH	52.50	53	51	TATAOIL	75	74	74	
DHARMCEMENT	--	--	--	L AND T	85.50	84.50	82.50	TELCO	365	362.50	355	
FICOM ORG	--	--	--	MAGNAHARD	--	--	--	UDALPHOSPH	--	--	--	
GARUPOLY	78	78.50	77	MAHINDRA	55.50	55.50	54.50	VOLTA	260	262.50	267.50	

TRKSO

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE	NITSUB CP	1090	1080
AJJINOMOTO	3400	3230	NITSUB EL	590	585
AKAI ELEC	515	524	NITSUB EST	1990	2010
AKKI	921	922	NITSUB HWY	574	565
ASAHI GAS	1800	1800	NITSUI CO	721	725
ASAHI OPT	569	565	NITSUKOSHI	1520	1530
BANK TOKYO	1400	1400	NITSUI EL	1240	1180
BRIGHTSTON	1210	1260	NICHICON	1300	1264
CANON	1070	991	NITHON CRMT	780	800
CASIO COMP	1210	1180	NIKKO SEC	1590	1624
CHUGAI MNG	0	0	NIP ELEC	1970	1950
CITIZEN Y	590	586	NIP KOKKAN	263	288
D-ICHI KAN	3120	3140	NIP OIL	1130	1130
DAI NIP IK	776	771	NIP STEEL	391	388
DAI NIP PT	2530	2490	NIP YUSEN	525	524
DAI NIP SC	975	956	NTS MOTOR	775	767
DAI NIP TO	470	463	NOMURA SEC	3230	3190
DAIWA H	1700	1700	OHBA CO	975	970
DATSA SEC	2080	2130	OLYMPUS	1090	1060
DAIWA MFG	2080	2080	PENTA OCN	850	853
ESABE	1272	1280	RYOTOMEER JY	2770	282730
FUITSU	1450	1420	SHENHONG MUMS	830	825
FUJI BANK	3330	3290	SHENHONG MUMS	1220	1190
FUJI PHOTO	3930	3890	SANKYO	2040	2030
FUJISAWA	1960	1960	SANYO ELEC	518	515
FUJITA CP	680	680	SEIYU ST	2110	2110
HITACHI	1240	1250	SEKISUI PB	1780	1810
HONDA MOT	1390	1370	SHARP	958	944
ISETAN	1330	1310	SHIYED	1600	1610
ITO YOKADO	4020	4020	SONY	4800	4640
JAP SYN RN	933	959	SUMITOMO	999	1010
JAPAN AIR	13100	13100	TAISEI	891	906
JAPAN MET	430	427	TAISHO HRN	1120	1090
KAIJIMA	1480	1480	TAKEEDA CR	3020	3020
KANSAI EL	260	260	TEIKUJIN	745	745
KAO SOAP	1860	1870	TKO NEW IX	933.88	24.87
KAWASAKI H	316	313	TOKYO HRN	1921	1924
KAWASAKI S	346	344	TOKYO ELEC	1180	1180
KIRIN BREW	2120	2110	TOKYO GAS	962	950
KONATSU	605	610	TOKYO POWR	5170	5080
KUBOTA LTD	553	563	TORAY IND	743	733
KYOCERA	5280	5250	TOSHIBA EL	740	732
MAKITA EL	1660	1670	-TOYO KKOGY	416	416
MARUI	2990	2970	TOYOTA MOT	1870	1840
MATSUDA EI	2230	2210	YAMAHA	997	962
MATSUDA EL	2190	2180	YAMAICHI	1630	1630
MEIJI SEIK	935	930	YANAGUCHI	4000	3980
			YANAZAKI	1500	1500

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE
C H TURNELL	13.40	13.30
CHIEUNG K	6.30	6.20
CHINA GAS	14.90	14.90
CHINA L-P	17.40	17.40
CHINA MOTR	16.00	15.90
COSMO PROP	4.30	4.30
EVERSO IND	.28	.27
FER EAST C	.61	.57
GEN ORIENT	0	44.00
H C DEVELOP	7.80	7.80
H S INDEX	235.47	223.04
HANG LUNG	4.12	4.05
HANG SENG	27.40	27.70
HAW PAR BR	0	21.00
HK ELECR CO	7.50	7.40
HK KOWLOON	5.80	5.85
HK LAND CO	6.85	6.75
HK SHAN BK	6.85	6.85
HK SHAN HT	3.47	3.45
HK TELE CO	6.80	6.80
HUTCH WHAM	6.80	6.65
IND EQ PAC	5.80	5.60
JARDINE H	10.10	9.90
KOWLOON H	10.10	10.10
NEW WORLD	7.25	7.15
PAUL Y CON	1.51	1.46
REALTY DEV	5.30	5.30
S H K CO	1.47	1.45
S H K PROP	7.90	7.75
SINE DARY	1.27	1.26
STELUX MFG	4.92	4.95
SVIRE PAC	15.00	14.80
T V B CO	12.50	12.60
T1 CHEUNG	2.82	2.80
UNION BANK	1.39	1.38
WLOCK HARD	0	7.25
WLOCK HART	0	1.15
WORLD INTL	2.52	2.50

TOKYO STOCKS CLOSED FIRMER IN MODERATE TRADE
TOKYO, FEB 10 - SHARE PRICES CLOSED FIRMER IN MODEST TRADE ON WALL STREET'S RISE OVERNIGHT AND THE DOLLAR'S STABILITY, BUT THE MARKET IS LOOKING NERVOUSLY TOWARDS FRIDAY'S RELEASE OF U.S. TRADE DATA FOR FURTHER DIRECTION, BROKERS SAID.
"THE FIGURES WILL PROBABLY NOT HAVE MUCH DIRECT IMPACT," SAID A FUND MANAGER AT THE BANK OF TOKYO, "HOW THEY MIGHT AFFECT THE DOLLAR IS WHAT WE WILL BE LOOKING AT."
THE NIKKEI AVERAGE GAINED 109.61 POINTS, OR 0.47 PCT, TO 23,771.88. THE INDEX LOST 109.33 ON TUESDAY. ADVANCES LED DECLINES 1.3 TO ONE IN TURNOVER OF 630 MLN SHARES AGAINST 380 MLN.
ELECTRONIC, BANK, SECURITIES HOUSE, PHARMACEUTICAL, RETAIL, PRECISION INSTRUMENT, SERVICE, CREDIT/LEASE, TRADING COMPANY AND SOME MANUFACTURING SHARES LED THE ADVANCE.
RAILWAY/BUS, COMMUNICATIONS, AIRLINE, GAS, MINING, CONSTRUCTION AND FISHERY ISSUES FELL.
EXPORT-RELATED ELECTRONICS, PRECISION INSTRUMENT, AUTO AND SOME MANUFACTURING SHARES WERE STRONG ON THE DOLLAR'S STEADINESS, BROKERS SAID.
THERE IS GENERAL SUBDUED OPTIMISM THAT THE U.S. TRADE DEFICIT WILL NARROW, WHICH SHOULD PUSH UP THE DOLLAR AND MAKE THESE SHARES EVEN MORE ATTRACTIVE, THEY ADDED.
TRADING IN TOSHIBA CORP SHARES WAS TEMPORARILY HALTED SHORTLY BEFORE THE MORNING CLOSE DUE TO EXCESSIVE BUYING ORDERS, AN EXCHANGE OFFICIAL SAID.
THE DEMAND WAS DUE IN PART TO LOCAL PRESS REPORTS TOSHIBA MIGHT NOT BE SUBJECT TO U.S. TRADE SANCTIONS IN RETALIATION FOR ILLEGAL MACHINE CO EXPORTS TO THE SOVIET UNION BY ITS TOSHIBA MACHINE CO SUBSIDIARY, BROKERS SAID.
TOSHIBA SHARES CLOSED UP EIGHT YEN AT 740.
INTEREST IN TOSHIBA SPURRED BUYING OF RELATED SHARES, BROKERS SAID. SONY ROSE 160 YEN TO 4,800, TABAI ESPEC CORP 130 TO 2,040 AND TDK 120 TO 4,530.

HONG KONG, FEB 10 - SHARE PRICES ENDED SLIGHTLY HIGHER IN LINE WITH NEW YORK'S GAINS, BUT TRADING WAS THIN AHEAD OF NEXT WEEK'S LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAY, BROKERS SAID.

THE HANG SENG INDEX CLOSED 10.43 POINTS HIGHER AT 2,233.47, WHILE THE BROADER-BASED HONG KONG INDEX ROSE 7.20 TO 1,458.67.

TURNOVER WAS 390.22 MLN H.K. DLRs, THE LOWEST IN 15 MONTHS, AGAINST 417 MLN ON THURSDAY.

BROKERS SAID INVESTORS WERE RELUCTANT TO CARRY LARGE POSITIONS THROUGH THE LOCAL HOLIDAYS AS THE DIRECTION OF OVERSEAS MARKETS REMAINED UNCLEAR.

KI WATT

ANMAN		JOR LINE AND BRICK	0.23	0.22
		JOR MANAG/CONSULT	---	---
		JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.43	2.43
		JOR PAPER CARDBRDG	3.00	3.00
		JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	2.40	2.40
		JOR PIPES MANUFAC	1.14	1.15
		JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	2.15	2.05
		JOR PRINTING/PACK.	3.00	3.65
		JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	0.67	0.67
		JOR SECURIT. CORP	0.91	0.91
		JOR TIMBER PROCES.	0.17	0.17
		JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	1.22	1.34
		JOR WORSTED MILL	4.25	4.50
		JOR. PETROLEUM REF	7.10	7.20
		JOR. FRENCH INS.	6.29	6.25
		JOR. INV. FIN. CORP.	1.92	1.90
		JOR. KAW. COAGRE	1.00	1.00
		JORDAN BREWERY	3.65	3.65
		JORDAN DAIRY	1.04	1.04
		JORDAN GULF BANK	1.16	1.17
		JORDAN GULF INS.	0.92	0.92
		JORDAN GULF REAL	0.33	0.33
		JORDAN INSURANCE	13.85	13.93
		JORDAN ISLANIC BANK	1.83	1.83
		JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	1.66	1.66
		JORDAN TANNING	1.95	1.95
		LIVESTOCK/POULTRY	0.72	0.72
		MAS INDUSTRIES	0.69	0.73
		MIDDLE EAST HOTEL	0.60	0.60
		MIDDLE EAST INS.	60.00	60.00
		MINERALS RESEARCH	0.60	0.60
		MUT.FIN.INVEST CO	1.52	1.52
		NAT/CABEL/ATWE/RF	0.98	0.98
		NATIONAL AHLIA INS	1.35	1.36
		NATIONAL INDUSTRY	0.50	0.50
		NATIONAL PORTFOLIO	0.77	0.77
		NATIONAL STREET	2.68	22.6
		NUTLSHPPTING LINE	0.81	0.81
		ORIENT DRY BATTERY	0.25	0.28
		PETRA BANK	2.04	2.15
		PETRA ENTERPRISES	0.63	0.64
		PETRA JOR.INS.	0.50	0.50
		PHILADELPHIA INS.	0.69	0.72
		RAPIA INDUSTRIAL	0.80	0.80
		REAL ESTATE INV.	0.43	0.43
		SPINNING WEAVING	0.94	0.93
		THE HOUSING BANK	1.58	1.59
		UNITED INSURANCE	2.50	2.50
		UNIV. CHEM. IND	1.10	1.10
		UNIVERSAL INS.	0.74	0.74
		WMOLEN INDUSTRIES	0.70	0.70
		YARMOUK INSURANCE	1.10	1.10

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR				BC-A	73.50	73.50
STOCK	LT	BUY	SELL	LC-A	.50	.50
AC-A	8.60	8.50	8.60	LC-B	.52	.53
ANSOR	4.75	4.75	4.80	PX-A	.40	.39
FER		2.34	2.40	PX-B	.41	.40
GLO	32.00	31.50	32.00	OIL SECTOR		
PLDT	148.00	147.00	148.00	BP-A	.017	.016
PCIB		31.00	33.00	BP-B	.017	.017
SNC-A	118.00	118.00	119.00	LRC-A	.0038	.0036
SNC-B	133.00	130.00	133.00	LRC-B	.0038	.0036
MINING SECTOR				OPW-A	.10	.1050
APX-A	.041	.04	.041	OPW-B	.1050	.10
APX-B	.042	.041	.042	OV-A	.044	.044
AT-A	24.75	24.50	24.75	OV-B	.066	.065

OFFICIAL INFORMATION			
SECTOR	SHARES	VALUE	AVERAGES
COMM.-IND.	768,550	9,644,800	749.36
MINING	94,525,900	12,937,750	5,537.32
OIL	239,020,000	4,285,190	6.433
TOTAL	334,314,450	26,867,740	818.12

COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL SECTOR				STOCK			
	LT	BUY	SELL	BC-A			74.50
SMC-A	118.00	118.00	119.00	BC-B			90.00
AGPI-A	50.00			LC-A	.50	.49	50.00
ANSOR	4.75	4.75	4.85	LC-B	.52	.52	.53
AC-A	8.60	8.50	8.60	PK-A	.40	.39	.40
FERT-A	2.32	2.32		OIL STOCK			
FERT-B		2.30	2.60	BP-A		BUY	SELL
GLO		31.50	32.50	BP-B	.017	.016	.017
PLAT	147.00	147.00	148.00	BP-B	.017	.017	.018
SODIRE		26.50	27.00	OPW-A	.10	.0975	10
MINING				OPW-B	.1050	.10	.1050
STOCK	LT	BUY	SELL	OV-A	.045	.045	.046
APX-A	.041	.04	.041	OV-B		.045	.046
APX-B		.041	.043	SPW-A	.025	.024	.025
AT-A	24.75	24.75	25.00	SPW-B		.025	.027
AT-R	27.50	25.50	27.50	TA	.027	.026	.027

OFFICIAL INFORMATION				
SECTOR	SHARES	VALUES	AVERAGES	CHANGES
C/I	564,910	12,978,460	736.94	D 0.68
MINING	304,530,200	10,971,815	5,005.14	U 25.88
OILS	338,510,000	8,866,030	6.664	U D 116
TOTAL	643,605,110	32,816,305	798.49	U 5.96

NAME	LAST	PR	CL	GS1	98	97.5	L.K.	NGAM	68	67
AJINOMOTO	285	285		GULIA	242	238	M GLASS		182	182
ALEXANDRA	170	170		GUINNESS			M HORT		40	40
ANAL IND	112	112		H K IN	90	90	M UTO		141	141
ANAL HDGS	140	140		H TAI PAN	109	108	M UTO WFG		59	59
AMCOL	115	115		HARINAU	85	82.5	M 'SHITA		480	480
BA TOS	140	142		HAW PAR	275	269	MAGNUM		185	182
C & C	189	185		HEKZA	92	100	MAREX IND		380	380
CARLSBERG	464	464		HIND HOTL	30	30	NAKOPOLPO		77	75
COLD STOR	362	360		HTL M'SIA	560	560	MCS HDGS		85	85
DAYTAPI	87	87		HTL NEGAR	350	350	METRO		520	520
DICH	460	470		HTL PROPS	77	76	NINEBEA		126	126
DUNLOPIND	75	75.5		HTL ROYAL	110	110	MULPHALTO		38	38
OUTBATHY	450	450		HUME IND	152	152	MURATA100			
ESSO DOR	344	340		INSAS	21	21	NURATA500			
EU YAN S	198	198		INT WOOD			N ST TIME		270	268
EVERPEACE				INTRACO	198	197	QUE		299	297
F A C B	60	60		ISETAN	488	486	QUS		115	115
F F ASSET	60	60		J SHPYARD	189	185	R D C		181	180
F F SHIP	196	196		JC-MPH	63	63	S FODDER		50	50
FBI OR	765	765		JOHAN HDG	36.5		S JOHORE			
FEB CABLE				K G HDGS	115		S JAMARA		100	100
FEB FLOUR	560	560		K KELLAS	283		SAN HDGS			
G Y LUMBER				K L IND	30.5		SANTO		204	204
G LUMBER	84.5	82		KE SANG	120	120	SATOS		38	38
GANDA HDG	31	30		KECK SENG	150	152	SEAVIEU		162	163
GEN CORP	64	64.5		KENTUCKY	205	200	SHI LIN		438	438
GEINTING	382	375		KEPPEL	190	188	SOUTH (N)		65	65
GOLD COIN	182	182		KG FLOUR	225	225	TIME ENG		155	155
GOODHOOD	1050	1050		KIAN JOG	238	238				
GRAND CEN	98	98		KINGS HTL	130	130				

SINGAPORE STOCKS CLOSE MARGINALLY HIGHER
SINGAPORE, FEB 10 - SHARE PRICES CLOSED MARGINALLY HIGHER OVER A BROAD FRONT ON SOME SHORT-COVERING INTEREST AND BARGAIN HUNTING AFTER FOUR STRAIGHT DAYS OF FALLS, BROKERS SAID.
THEY SAID HIGHER WALL STREET AND TOKYO STOCK MARKETS AND A FIRMER U.S. DOLLAR AIDED SENTIMENT BUT TRADING REMAINED THIN AS MOST INSTITUTIONS WERE UNWILLING TO MAKE FRESH COMMITMENTS AREA OF THE FORTHCOMING LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS AND AMID CONTINUED UNCERTAINTY ABOUT THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN MALAYSIA.
THE MARKET IS LOOKING TO FRIDAY'S RELEASE OF U.S. DECEMBER TRADE FIGURES FOR DIRECTION, BROKERS SAID.

BANK SECTOR	P.C.LS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRAD
-NATIONAL BANK	1.010	1.010	1.010	1.010	345000	1
-GULF BANK	0.380	0.380	0.380	0.380	650000	2
-COMMERCIAL BK	0.255	0.255	0.255	0.255	240000	
-AHILI BANK	0.345	0.340	0.340	0.340	80000	
-B.K.M.E.	0.285	0.305	0.305	0.290	340000	1
-K.R.E.B.	0.440	0.420	0.435	0.420	40000	
-BURGAN BANK	0.265	0.265	0.265	0.265	30000	
-K.F. HOUSE	0.490	0.490	0.490	0.490	400000	1
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
-KUT INV. CO.	0.204	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-K.I.I.C.	0.170	0.168	0.168	0.160	120000	
-CON FACILITIES	0.425	0.430	0.430	0.430	90000	
-AHIAN INV.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-I.F.A.	0.112	0.114	0.114	0.110	400000	1
-INV. PEARL KUT	0.106	0.106	0.106	0.106	40000	
INSURANCE SECTOR						
-KUT INSURANCE	0.730	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-GULF INSURANCE	0.370	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-AHILA INS. CO.	0.560	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-HARBA INS. CO.	0.490	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
REAL EST SECTOR						
-KUT R. EST. CO.	0.270	0.250	0.265	0.250	180000	1
-UMI R. EST. CO.	0.116	0.114	0.120	0.114	620000	1
-MAT R. EST. CO.	0.234	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-SALHIYAH R.E.	0.070	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-KUT PROJECTS	0.094	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-KUT R.E.I.COM	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
-MAT IND. CO.	0.580	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-KUT M.P. IND.	0.260	0.255	0.255	0.255	15266	
-KUT CEMENT CO.	0.238	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-REF. IND. CO.	0.390	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-N.A.M.T.CO.	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-GULF CABLE	1.030	1.030	1.030	1.030	10000	
-K.P.H. INT. CO.	0.164	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-CONT. MARINE	0.350	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-K.S.H. INP. CO.	0.046	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
SERVICES SECTOR						
-OVERLAND TRANS	0.079	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-K.N.C. CO.	0.218	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-KUT HOTELS CO.	0.168	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-P.WAREHOUSING	0.166	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-COM.MKT.CHMPX.	0.019	0.020	0.020	0.019	3680000	2
-MOBILE TELE.	0.385	0.385	0.385	0.385	30000	
-KUT COMPUTER	0.188	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
FOOD SECTOR						
-LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.250	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-UNTD FISHERIES	0.138	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-UNTD-POULTRY	0.246	0.240	0.240	0.240	20000	
-KUT FOODS	0.300	0.290	0.290	0.290	40000	
-AGRI.FOOD PRD.	0.150	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
NON-KUT SECTOR						
-BINH.INTER.BK	0.073	0.074	0.075	0.073	3080000	3
-BINH.M.EAST.BK	0.069	0.069	0.069	0.049	80000	
-UNTD.GULF BK	0.050	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-COAST INVEST.	0.090	0.091	0.091	0.089	1160000	1
-A.A.M. INV.COOP	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.040	80000	
-FIRST.GULF BK	0.870	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-B.K.I.G.	0.093	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE						
COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL MARKET						
FINANCIAL SECTOR	P.C.LS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRAD
-PEARL INV.CO.	0.098	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-GULF INV.CO.	0.041	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-GULF INTL INS	0.009	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-ARAB INT CO.	0.055	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-SHARJAH INS	0.000	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
-GULF UNION INS	0.055	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
B-GULF MEDICAL	0.015	-----	-----	-----	-----	---
C-R.K.WHITE CMNT	0.007	-----	-----			

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE	OE BUEHR N	810	790
BAER HDGS	10400	10600	OE BUEHR N	190.00	190.00
BALDISE PS	1950	1950	OE BUEHR P	210.00	200.00
234 PS	234	260	ROCKE BABY	9800	9750
BK LEU I	2500	2675	ROCKE I	9800	9800
BK LEU N	2300	2350	RUCKER I	12325	12300
BK LEU PS	416	406	RUECKVER N	6800	6750
CFV	1135	1110	RUECKVER P	1910	1895
CIB GEIG I	2590	2570	RY TR BK	950	930
CIB GEIG N	1380	1380	S BKKGS L	3025	3010
CIB GEIG P	1780	1770	S BKKGS N	590	590
CKM	1250	1250	S BKKGS P	114.50	114.00
CRED SUJ I	2350	2350	S BKNVRN I	316	320
CRED SUJ N	465	465	S BKNVRN N	273	274
EG LAUFEN	0	1975	S BKNVRN P	275	279
ELEKTROMAT	2940	2950	SANDOZ I	12200	12200
EMS CHEN I	2850	2800	SANDOZ N	5000	5000
EMS CHEN P	0	0	SANDOZ PS	1855	1845
GLOBUS I	7000	7000	SULZER N	3750	3750
GLOBUS N	0	6500	SULZER PS	316	312
GLOBUS P	1080	1090	SVB	1660	1650
JACOBS S I	8000	7950	SWISSAIR	1000	1000
JACOBS S N	1695	1690	SWISSAIR N	935	925
JACOBS S P	660	655	W THUR I	5100	5050
JELN I	2075	2050	W THUR N	2700	2645
JELN PS	325	320	W THUR PS	705	700
LANDIS N	1025	1025	ZURICH I	5450	5425
LANDIS PS	89.00	88.50	ZURICH N	2750	2690
MERCK I	665	665	ZURICH PS	1860	1860

proceeds, he said. He said his ministry had cut total manpower by more than 24,000 by firing emigrants and replacing them with locals, who had proved to be more efficient.

The minister announced several major projects, including a plant to produce a million tyres a year due to open in two years. He said a contract was ready for signing with a foreign firm he did not identify.

The government planned to construct beds to produce 400,000 tonnes of salt annually, cutting out the need for imports.

A second petrochemical plant would be built at Basra, close to the warfront with Iran, and another fertiliser plant at Mosul in the north with a capacity of a million tonnes a year.

A second iron and steel plant able to produce a million tonnes of sheet iron a year would be built in the south, the minister said.

Products

He said two new plants would together produce 1,370,000 tonnes of phosphate products annually from the country's huge reserves.

Huwaish said his ministry would build a 1,280-megawatt power station in western Iraq and a 900-megawatt plant in the north.

	Buying	Selling
US dlr	.27561	.27709
Stg.	.48191	.48544
D M	.16222	.16338
S. fr	.19814	.19963
F. fr	.04802	.04844
It lira	.0002203	.0002227
J. yen	.0021316	.0021480
B dinar	.73097	.73527
UAE dir	.07503	.07544
S. riyal	.073460	.07391
Q. riyal	.07569	.07613
O. riyal	.71560	.72063

firmly yesterday as banks covered positions, focusing on the short dates.

Tomorrow and spot-nex deposits, which had languished since the Fed's round one one percent, dealt at four per cent. Overnight deals early in the morning at 3 1/2 per cent, then fell back to Tuesday's one per cent.

Pressure on the short dates pushed the fixed periods up to 3 1/2 per cent, with the 12-month 8 point higher than Tuesday's levels although one bank lent as low as 7 1/2 per cent.

Bankers' longer maturities saw a little more movement. One-year three-month were quoted at 4 3/4 per cent from Tuesday's 4 1/2 per cent. Six-month edged up to 4 7/8, 1/2 per cent from 4 1/2 per cent. One-year was five 4/8 per cent.

Meanwhile, Saudi riyal interbank deposit rates rose 1/4 point and occasionally more in an active but nervous market today with traders unwilling to take out new positions amid uncertainty over the timing of a Saudi bond issue.

A senior Saudi Finance Ministry official said in a newspaper interview published on Tuesday that the first offering would be made soon, but gave no exact timing.

on Tuesday, while three-months
firmed to 7 3/8, 1.8 per cent from
7 1/8, seven. Six-months also
climbed to 7 1/2, 1/4 per cent
from 7 3/16, 1/16.

In the short dates, spot-next
and overnight funds traded at
around 6 1/2, six per cent, while
tomorrow-next and one-week
were quoted at seven, 6 1/2 per
cent.

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Slow growth forecast for Gulf economies

BAHRAIN, Feb 10, (Reuters): Economic growth in Gulf Arab states is likely to be curbed in 1988 by a weak oil market and tight government budgets, Gulf International Bank said in an economic report today.

"The scope of economic growth in 1988 appears to be limited," said the Bahrain-based bank's economist, Henry Azzam.

The restrained government budgets in most Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries may fail to give domestic demand the boost needed to compensate for the expected drop in oil gross domestic product.

The GCC links Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Oman, Saudi Arabia and the UAE.

Azzam said a drop in the purchasing power of the US dollar, to which most GCC currencies are tied, tighter bank credit, planned increases in import duties and a reduction in subsidies would also dampen domestic demand.

Economies

But he said Gulf economies could be expected to consolidate gains made in 1987, with the private sector geared to play a more active role.

In Saudi Arabia, non-oil gross domestic product grew by 0.8 per cent in 1987 compared to declines of 2.3 per cent in 1986 and 5.7 per cent in 1985. Saudi Arabia's exports of non-oil products rose by 25 per cent and the inflation rate was a negative 1.4 per cent.

Azzam said developments in the Gulf's financial and capital markets — Kuwait has issued government bonds and Saudi Arabia plans to do so — would help to check the erosion of foreign reserves.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) had succeeded in stabilising oil prices at around \$18 a barrel he said, and prices were likely to fluctuate around that level well into the next decade.

South Yemen and Mauritania get Arab Fund loans

THE Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development offered yesterday four new loans to South Yemen and Mauritania to the tune of KD9.3 million.

The four credit agreements were signed by Afes director general Abdullah Al Hamad and the ambassadors of South Yemen and Mauritania in Kuwait.

A press release of the Kuwait-based fund indicated that the first loan to Aden, worth KD5.5 million, would co-finance a major road project.

The second loan, amounting to KD1.5 million, is earmarked for financing a fisheries institute project and a scheme for fisheries cooperatives.

The two loans brought to KD71.7 million total finances to Aden provided by Afes since inception of credit facilities in 1973.

The fund also gave two loans worth KD2.3 million to Mauritania.

The first loan, amounting to KD1.3 million would finance a project for making better use of "Al Qalab" ore steel mines.

The scheme is designed to boost the mines' annual output to keep pace with rising demand.

The second loan, worth KD1 million would benefit convertible industries and traditional fishing sectors.

Loan facilities will help boost economy

THE Governor of Kuwait's Central Bank, Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah, has denied rumours that the Central Bank was fixing the dinar rate of exchange according to the liquidity of the local market.

He affirmed that the price of the Kuwaiti Dinar is determined according to a basket of foreign currencies.

Sheikh Salem also said that the completion of the Central Bank's programme to settle outstanding debts owed to local banks will lead to a new era of economic activity in the country.

He said this can be achieved by the local banks developing their loan facilities according to new guidelines and regulations.

Sheikh Salem pointed out that the new interest rates which were brought in during the first quarter of 1987 had a positive effect on the demand for credit.

Loans over KD200,000 totalled KD200 million during the period from March to December last year and sixty per cent of these loans were given for productive economic projects.

Gold gains

Dollar edgy and stocks firmer

LONDON, Feb 10, (Reuters): The dollar opened slightly lower in Europe today ahead of key US trade figures on Friday, stocks were generally firmer while gold prices were higher.

Trading on Europe's markets was mostly thin and cautious ahead of Friday's figures for the US December trade deficit. A bigger-than-expected trade gap would be likely to depress the dollar.

Dealers said there was no clear direction for investors to follow. "The US will take the lead later today," a London currency trader said.

Gains

Shares in Paris, London, Frankfurt and Zurich showed modest gains after stronger closes on Wall Street and in Tokyo. The gold price was fixed at \$443.80 an ounce in London, up from Tuesday's fix of \$438.60.

The dollar opened at about

1.6948 West German marks in London and 128.95 Japanese yen from Tuesday's close of 1.7005 marks and 129.10 yen. It had started to soften in New York.

Some dealers expressed concern about remarks today by US Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter to a Congressional hearing that the US trade balance would improve as the year went on, whatever Friday's figures for December show.

The dealers took this as a sign that the US trade deficit for December may be higher than the \$12 to \$13.5 billion gap that many economists are expecting.

Maybe we should not interpret too much into Yeutter's statement but I personally am pessimistic about Friday," said a senior dealer at a large US bank in Frankfurt.

The market should be warned by that (Yeutter's comment), said another dealer in London.

One dealer with a European bank in London said problems could be building up for the dollar in the short-term until the trade figures show a sustained improvement.

He cited jitters about this year's presidential election, a possible disappointment from the trade numbers on Friday and an easier US credit policy as potentially undermining factors.

Some dealer expect lower US interest rates in reaction to a slowdown in the American economy.

With no US economic data due today and Japanese markets now closed until Friday because of a national holiday, German dealers expected the dollar to hold in its 1.69 to 1.71 mark range for the rest of the day.

On share markets, London's blue-chip FTSE 100 index was 1,716 points at 1100 GMT after closing at 1,707.2 on Tuesday.

Concern that a British Ford car workers' strike could mean a big pay rise for its workers, possibly setting the scene for a general rise in wage demands, overshadowed the market, dealers said.

Leading West German share prices were steady and dealers said prices had yet to benefit fully from the dollar's recovery from its lows.

French share prices started firmer across the board. "The attention is still on speculative stocks and the market could remain a little firmer," one Paris dealer said.

The Tokyo stock index rose 109.61 points to 23,771.88, also helped by a late rally on Wall Street on Tuesday, which gained 18.74 points to close at 1,914.46.

In Hong Kong, the Hang Seng index closed 10.43 points up at 2,233.47 but business was thin in front of next week's Lunar New Year holiday.

News agency continues to invest heavily for the long term

Reuters reports pre-tax profits up 37.4pc

LONDON, Feb 10, (Reuters): Reuters Holdings Plc, the news and information organisation, reported a 37.4 per cent rise in its 1987 pre-tax profits today.

Reuters said pre-tax profit rose to £178.8 million (\$314.7 million) in 1987, from £130.1 million (\$229 million) in 1986.

Revenues rose by 39.6 per cent to £866.9 million (\$1.5 billion). Managing director and chief executive Glen Renfrew said in a statement that the 12 months to December 31, 1987, had been "another year of very strong growth."

Steps

Renfrew said Reuters had taken steps to cut costs and trim some expansion plans in the expectation that, following last October's crash on stock markets, revenue growth in 1988 would not match the high rate seen in 1987.

But he said the rate of new orders remained good enough to ensure vigorous 1988 revenue growth.

Renfrew said: "New orders net of cancellations were excellent up to the 19 October stock market crash and, with the exception of client systems, have held up very well in the circumstances since then."

"While it shook the confidence of markets, the crisis also dramatised the importance of real-time global information," he said.

Revenue

"However, in the expectation that 1988 revenue growth would not match last year's high rate, we took steps to cut costs and trimmed some of our expansion plans, but continue to invest heavily for the long term."

Post-crash problems in the securities sector were offset by the timely availability of the new



Glen Renfrew

equities 2000 product for stock market clients which Renfrew said sold very well.

He said: "In total, and allowing for the problems in client systems, the net new order rate remains good enough to produce further vigorous revenue growth in 1988."

Reuters is the world's largest electronic publisher. It supplies a wide range of services both to business subscribers and to the news media, distributing information by more than 135,000 video terminals and teletypes and directly into clients' computers.

Client systems is the side of the business which supplies automated trading systems for use in financial dealing rooms.

The Reuters share price in London about 15 minutes after the news of the company's results was at £4.65 (\$8.18) after closing on Tuesday at £4.50 (\$7.92).

New York trading of its American Depository Shares (ADS) had at that time not yet begun for the day.

On revenue from client systems, Renfrew said this rose steeply in 1987 "but new orders weakened and then dropped sharply after the crash."

Orders were affected by a transition, still in progress, from video to digital switching technology at US subsidiary Rich Inc and were depressed in some cases, especially New York, as customers deferred plans for new financial dealing rooms.

Renfrew said all geographical areas contributed to 1987 revenue growth. European revenue grew 48.4 per cent and accounted for 57.2 per cent of the company total.

Weakness

Revenue from Asia rose by 27.8 per cent despite weakness of dollar-related currencies in the Middle East and Pacific region, and was helped by "excellent business in Japan and the strength of the yen."

Revenue from North America grew by 32.7 per cent, but new revenue from recent US acquisitions Instinet and I.P. Sharp Associates did not quite offset dollar weakness.

Renfrew said the acquisition, completed in May, of Instinet meant "Reuters established a leading position in the field of automated, anonymous trading and entered a new phase of its strategic development."

Instinet provides automated trading facilities for equities.

Journalists

The June acquisition of IP Sharp Associates was "a further step towards our goal of building up large-scale proprietary historical databases accessible from our real-time subscriber terminals," Renfrew said.

Renfrew said that at end-1987, Reuters employed 1,173 journalists, photographers and

cameramen, 136 more than a year before. It opened eight new international reporting bureaux but closed its Tehran bureau. It had a total of 113 bureaux.

It reached provisional agreement in 1987 to increase its equity shareholding in Visnews Limited, the world's leading television news agency, from 55 to 88.75 per cent.

Reuters said capital spending rose by 57.8 per cent to £151.3 million (\$266 million) in 1987, about one-third of this on technical development.

Reuters also announced today that it would split its American Depository Shares two-for-one from March 1, so that each ADS represents three B ordinary (limited voting) shares instead of the present six.

This was being done to reduce the price of each ADS to a more marketable level, but would have no effect on attributable earnings or dividend income.

Forecast

Renfrew later told a news conference that, although Reuters expected revenue growth to slacken, it had not abandoned a forecast for a 25 per cent rise in pre-tax profits this year.

"We have not yet abandoned our long-term forecast," he said. "The 1987 profits were slightly above market expectations," several brokerage analysts said. They added that Reuters might face a delayed impact on growth from the October crash.

But Renfrew said: "So far we haven't been hurt too badly. We do not think we will see a major delayed reaction. But we do not know."

Renfrew said Reuters was a diversified business serving different market sectors and geographic regions, which insulated it from setbacks in individual areas.

New Chinese bank fights to become commercial

SHANGHAI, Feb 10, (Reuters): China's first commercial bank since 1949 has found itself in a bitter fight for business with the four giant state banks which resent the competition it was intended to provide. Chinese bankers and economists say.

The Bank of Communications (BOC) opened amid much publicity in Shanghai last April, the first bank in Communist China not to be run by the state.

BOC is controlled by shareholders, with 50 per cent of shares owned by People's Bank of China, 40 per cent by firms and local authorities and 10 per cent by individuals.

System

It was founded to give the country a better banking system by competing with the four state banks which have enjoyed a monopoly in their respective sectors — agriculture, the cities, foreign exchange and construction.

Since it was started, the bank has set up 17 new offices with turnover of more than 5.2 billion yuan (\$1.4 billion) and total deposits of more than 2.8 billion yuan (\$756 million), the Economic Daily said.

But BOC is being obstructed in its plans to set up a national branch network by local governments demanding the right to choose branch managers and thus control funds, and by banks resisting BOC's attempts to attract clients.

The Shanghai Xinmin evening

news last week described one such effort by the Industrial and Commercial Bank (ICB), which is the bank for the cities and the one most threatened by BOC.

Customer

When a major customer of ICB, the Xinhua Bookstore, opened an account with BOC in Shanghai last March, ICB put great pressure on BOC to close it.

When BOC refused, ICB raised the commission charged for handling the bookstore's account, leaving the store no option but to take the bank to court.

A Peking economist said the four state banks were resisting all attempts to encroach on their territory.

"A more serious problem is that ICB branches are controlled by the local governments, which means the money goes where they want it to and not where it should commercially," he said.

He said a fierce debate was going on as to who should appoint the managers of BOC's new branches, with the central bank, the People's Bank, wanting BOC to do it and local governments fighting to get control of the appointments.

The Economic Daily on Sunday gave an example of the difficulty of imposing financial discipline on local governments.

Projects

The paper quoted Finance Minister Wang Bingqian as saying that out of 6,880 state projects involving 44 billion

yuan (\$11.9 billion) of investment which should have been changed into loans, 2,477 projects had not been changed.

Wang Weixin, a senior BOC official, said the bank was set up to pose competition.

"Previously, banks turned depositors away because accepting their money was too much trouble. Each bank had its own monopoly," he said.

He added that BOC was setting up its branches according to economic need, not regional administration, in order to avoid interference from local officials.

Profit

"Our money comes from our depositors, not the state. We will lend it where it can make a profit, not according to state plan allocation," he said.

The Economic Daily said the BOC had more than 1,300 firms as customers. Wang said individuals accounted for only 0.9 per cent of total depositors and the bank needed a larger and more comprehensive network to attract more individuals.

He said another problem facing his bank was the lack of a clear law defining bankruptcy for state firms, which would enable it to claim on a firm that defaulted. Currently, it can only claim assets owned by individuals or collectives.

Under existing law, the fixed assets of a state firm belong to the state, not the firm, so a bank cannot take possession of them if the business defaults on loans.

Soviets increase grain imports

WASHINGTON, Feb 10, (AP): The Soviet Union produced its third-largest total grain harvest last year, but a drop in wheat output and quality has forced Moscow to import huge quantities of bread grain, the Agriculture Department said today.

Much of the imported wheat has come from the United States under a subsidy programme that allows selected foreign customers to buy farm commodities at prices below US market levels.

Last month the Soviet Union officially reported the 1987 grain crop by 211.3 million metric tons, up slightly from 210.1 million tons in 1986, the first back-to-back harvests of more than 200 million tons.

Largest

According to the report's annual listings, the 1987 harvest was the largest since the record output of 237.4 million tons in 1978. The next biggest was 223.8 million tons in 1976.

The USDA had been estimating last year's Soviet harvest at 210 million tons. Although Moscow did not include a breakdown for 1987 production of all grains, department experts estimated last year's wheat harvest at 80.5 million tons, well below the 92.3 million tons produced in 1986.

Kuwait loan for Syria

DAMASCUS, Feb 10, (Reuters): Kuwait is to lend KD 2.35 million to Damascus to expand an electricity network in central Syria, Kuwait officials said.

They said the agreement was signed today by Abdul Wahab Al Badr, Deputy Director-General of the Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development, and Humaid Meri, Syria's Deputy Planning Minister.

The money will be spent on expanding the Mahrdeh power grid near the city of Homs to meet an increasing demand for energy, Syrian officials said. Work was expected to be completed by mid-1988.

Kuwait lent KD7 million to Syria in 1985 to help finance the Mahrdeh network.

Economic talks

PRESIDENT of Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry Abdul Aziz Al Saqer yesterday met here the head of Neukolln municipality of West Germany.

Official sources in the chamber told Kuna that they discussed the possibilities of boosting the economic and investment cooperation between Kuwait and Neukolln province.

\$1b sought for Gulf aluminium project

BAHRAIN, Feb 10, (Reuters): Bankers will be asked to raise almost \$1 billion to build an aluminium smelter in the Gulf's biggest non-oil-related finance package in a decade.

Officials of the Umm Al Qaiwain Aluminium Company (Umalco) said it would send a team to visit Gulf banks in the first week of March to prepare for a \$240-million share offering, setting the stage for future loans of \$700 million.

"Basically we are ready to go," said one senior official of the UAE-based company.

He said Umalco hoped to start building the 240,000-tonnes-a-year smelter by July 1 and to start producing metal by the first half of 1990.

Package

Bankers in the region said the total package had not been equalled since the Dubai Aluminium Company Ltd built its 150,000-tonne aluminium smelter in the late 1970s.

The Umalco official said an agreement for an initial \$60 million of voting equity in the company was already on the verge of being signed.

Under the agreement, the government of the Emirate of Umm Al Qaiwain and the Dubai-based firm International Engineering Consultants would hold 51 per cent of voting equity.

United Aluminium Fabricators, a consortium of three US aluminium companies, would hold 30.5 per cent, Britain's Amari PLC 8.5 per cent and two Chinese companies — Peking-based China National Metals and Minerals Import and Export Corporation and Hong Kong's China Everbright Holdings Company — 10 per cent.

Umalco's financial advisers, the New York subsidiary of Lloyds Bank PLC, are due in the Gulf region in March to present a prospectus to banks for underwriting the \$240 million in non-voting equity to be sold to investors.

Conditions

Umalco said the Chinese partners would take some of the non-voting equity and Kuwait's Gulf Investment Corporation and Bahrain's Arab Banking Corporation were each likely to underwrite \$75 million, although

no firm commitments had been made.

Bankers in the Gulf said they had two conditions before they would consider underwriting the project: secure sources of natural gas to power the smelter and definite agreements to take the finished aluminium.

The Umalco official, who declined to be identified, said both conditions were well on the way to being met. The company had signed a preliminary agreement with Sharjah's Crescent Petroleum Company to supply gas and a draft contract was being prepared.

Loans

United Aluminium Fabricators would take 78,000 tonnes of aluminium a year, Amari 15,000 tonnes and the Chinese Partners 78,000 tonnes. Another 50,000 tonnes a year would be used to barter for the raw alumina needed by the smelter.

"If everything goes according to plan, we will still need some \$65 million for the non-voting equity," said the official. He hoped this would be underwritten by other banks in the Gulf.

The \$700 million in loans

would be sought from commercial banks and from government export agencies. Umalco said it had already approached the British Export Credit Guarantee Department (ECGD) and its counterpart in West Germany.

Another Gulf firm, Aluminium Bahrain (Alba), has started to raise \$212 million to increase its smelter's capacity by 45,000 tonnes a year from 180,000 tonnes.

Shareholders have agreed to add \$20 million in equity to finance part of the project's \$120 million first phase. The National Bank of Bahrain will lend \$30 million and today was the bid deadline for a syndicated loan of \$40 million.

Alba general manager Gudvin Tofte told Reuters the bids made by banks showed that both the interest and the money were there. He said several options, including export credits, were being considered for the balance of the money.

Efforts to finance the \$92 million second phase had not yet begun but would follow much the same pattern, Alba officials said.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Feb 10, (Reuters): The Australian share market closed lower with all sectors recording falls despite an early short-lived rally. The All Ordinaries index closed 9.3 points down at 1,171.

TOKYO: Shares closed firmer in modest trade on Wall Street's overnight rise and the stable dollar, but the market looked towards Friday's US trade data release for further direction. The Nikkei Average gained 109.61 points to 23,771.88.

HONG KONG: Share prices ended slightly higher in line with New York's gains, but trading was thin ahead of next week's Lunar New Year holiday. The Hang Seng index closed 10.43 points higher at 2,233.47.

SINGAPORE: Share prices closed marginally higher over a broad front on some short-covering interest and bargain hunting after four straight days of falls. The Straits Times industrial index, calculated by Overseas Union Bank, climbed 0.90 points to \$56.72 from Tuesday's close.

BOMBAY: Fresh up-country selling pressure checked Tuesday's mild recovery in another session of poor dealings. Selling was triggered by rumours of a pending cabinet reshuffle.

FRANKFURT: Shares closed higher across the board with Daimler and its electrical subsidiary AEG leading the market

higher. The Commerzbank index, calculated at mid-session, was up 16.8 at 1,280.2.

ZURICH: Shares closed steady in low turnover, with the weaker dollar having only limited impact on the market. AT 1330 GMT the All-Share Swiss index was up 2.4 at 783.4.

PARIS: Shares started the main floor session with gains in the majority, though prices were mostly off their morning highs in fairly heavy trading.

LONDON: Modest gains in the morning session on the back of a firmer Wall Street trend were mostly eroded at midday, as prices eased on lack of buying interest. At 1245 GMT the FTSE 100 was down 1.9 at 1,705.3.

NEW YORK: Stocks moved higher in a follow-through of Tuesday's late afternoon rally. The Dow climbed 14 to 1,929.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 10.2.88			
B.No.	Ships Name	Agent	Tel. No.
4	Rashid	Al Qutub	4747815
9	Tug Abu Samir	Gulf Star	4845501
	Barge Jubail		
10	Yujin	ISA	2441860
11	Wave Crest	Algh Barber	4843988
16	Nykonos	I.S.A.	2441860
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ships Name	Agent	Tel. No.
10/2	Anemos	Algh Seafit	4745533
10/2	Maerck Astro	Behbehani	2412085
10/2	Mermaid Ace	Marafi	2465645
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B. No	Ships name	Agent	Tel. No.
2	Eleftheria K	Roger	2423642
3	Tug Delmar 5	Segership	2432692
COMPILED BY Alghanim Barber Shipping Co. WLL, PO Box 21708 Safat, Alghanim Industries Bldg, Airport Road, Shuwaikh. Phone 4843988/4842988 Extn. 3268/3614.			

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Handwritten signature in Arabic script.

Dear Junior Readers,

Have you ever had someone call you a bad name or say something to you that was untrue and hurt your feelings? This is something that often happens in school at one time or another. Since it is not unusual for a student to say something in anger that hurts another person. Although outbursts of this kind should not happen, they do.

The best thing to learn is how to react when someone says something unkind to you. It helps if you can try to understand that the other person might be angry and unhappy and wants to make you feel unhappy also. Of course, you have probably been told by your parents and teachers to "just ignore" someone who says rude things, and although this is difficult, it is probably the best way to handle such a situation.

Do not lower yourself to the level of the other person by saying things back, but instead try to just continue what you are doing and the other person will most likely leave you alone.

Aunt Barbara

Search for GAL

Can you find the words below in the diagram? They are formed in the diagram forwards, backwards, up, down, or diagonally, but they are always in a straight line and are never formed by skipping over any letters.

AGAL	GALE	GALLERY	GALOOT
BENGAL	GALENA	GALLEY	GALORE
FINGAL	GALILEO	GALLIC	GALOSHES
FRUGAL	GALL	GALLON	GALWAY
FUNGAL	GALLANT	GALLOP	LEGAL
GALA	GALLEON	GALLUS	REGAL
GALAXY			SEGAL

G A L L A X G L S K D E H
S T Q I H A F R U G A L F
L A G E L Z Y M L J B A C
S R P I Y W N O L L A G E
G A L L E R Y A A I T G G
U E S Y B V S G G N H A A
O F I G X C M A A N L O L
O U O A D A U L T A A R O
H N E L G A L W A Y G P O
E G R L E A O A U S E A T
R A O I G F S F G V R N B
L L L C I T P L A G N E B
A N A N F P J O A A N L O
L A G E S R M E L L B A C
G A L L E O N I D L X G Y
L M K J G O K L H E A Z G
L S E H S O L A G Y A G R

A WOLF had a fox with him, and made him do all his dirty work. The fox would gladly have escaped, but the wolf was stronger than he was, so he had to do as he was told.

One day, as they went through the forest, the wolf said, "Off you go, Red Fox, and bring me something good to eat, or I'll eat you instead!"

"I know a farm," replied the fox, "where there are a number of little lambs. I'll bring you one if you like."

This suited the wolf very well, so the fox went and stole a lamb and brought it back to the wolf, who devoured it. But the wolf was still hungry, and thought he would go and steal another lamb for himself. Off he went to the farm, but he was so clumsy about it that the ewe saw him and started to bleat, and she made such a noise that the farm people came running up with all sorts of farm implements. They beat the wolf so mercilessly that he fled, limping and groaning.

"You've made a fool of

The wolf and the fox

me," complained the wolf when he reached the fox. "When I tried to steal another lamb, all the farm people rushed out, and they have beaten me to a jelly!"

"Why must you be so greedy?" replied the fox.

Next day they were strolling through the forest, when the wolf said, "Bring me something to eat, Red Fox, or I'll eat you instead!"

"I know a farm," replied the fox, "where the farmer's wife bakes wonderful pancakes. I'll bring some if you like."

Off he went, and when he came to the farm-house he sniffed around for a time till he discovered the dish of pancakes, took out six and carried them back to the wolf. "There you are!" he said, and went off to sleep.

The wolf swallowed all six pancakes at one gulp, and wanted more. So off he went to the farm-house,

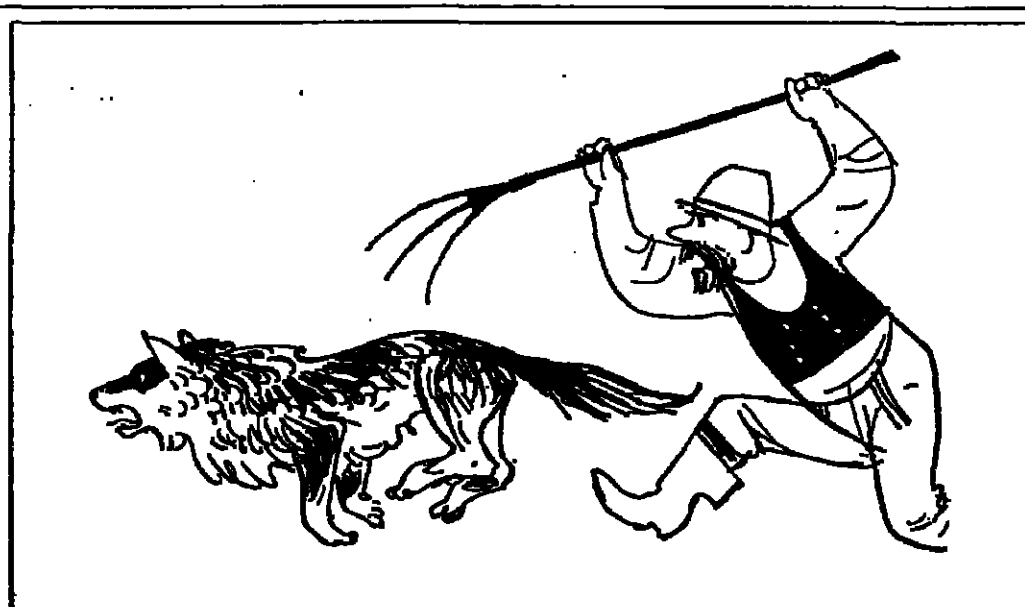
and clumsily pulled the whole dish off the shelf, so that it was broken into pieces on the floor. The farmer's wife came to see what all the noise was, and when she saw the wolf she raised the alarm. Up rushed all the farm people, who beat him with sticks and rakes and pitchforks until he was lame in two legs, and he fled howling into the forest.

"You've made a fool of me," he complained to the fox. "The farm people caught me and almost beat the life out of me!"

"Why must you be so greedy?" replied the fox.

Again on the third day they were going through the forest, the wolf limping along with difficulty. "Red Fox," he said, "go and bring something to eat, or I'll eat you instead!"

"I know a man," replied the fox, "who has a great barrel of salted meat lying in his cellar. Let's go and eat it."



"Fine," said the wolf. "But I want you to help me if we are attacked."

"All right," replied the fox, and showed him the way to the cellar.

There was plenty of meat in the barrel, and the wolf tucked in and made a hearty meal of it. The fox ate a little too, but he kept running back to the hole by which they had entered, to see if his body was still slim

enough to slip through it. "Tell me, dear fox," said the wolf, "why are you so restless?"

"I just want to make sure that no one is coming," replied the crafty animal. "Don't eat too much!"

"I shall go on eating till the barrel is empty!" declared the wolf.

Meanwhile, the owner of the house had been disturbed by all the noise, and

came to see what was happening. As soon as the fox caught sight of him, he was out in a flash; but the wolf had eaten so much that he stuck in the hole, and could move neither forwards nor backwards.

The man seized a cudgel and struck the wolf dead, and the fox trotted off through the trees, delighted to be rid of the old glutton.

The groves of Academe

1. Who advised us to 'seek for truth in the groves of Academe'?
2. When compulsory education was introduced in England and Wales in 1876, up to what age did a child normally have to attend school?
3. Who was the famous headmaster to whom Thomas Hughes paid tribute in Tom Brown's School-days?
4. Who educated whom at the 'College of One'?
5. Alexander the Great was fortunate in having whom as a tutor?
6. Can you name the five Oxford colleges each of which has exactly the same name as a Cambridge college?
7. Which is the oldest university in Scotland?
8. The 'School of the Ten Bells' specialises in which delicate craft?
9. Which leading university was named after an Englishman who had amassed a fortune with the East India Company?

Answers: 1. Horace, in Book II of his Epistles. 2. Twelve, although there were provisions for exemption at an earlier age. 3. Dr Thomas Arnold, who was Headmaster of Rugby from 1828 to 1842, and was also the father of the poet Matthew Arnold. 4. F. Scott Fitzgerald instructed Sheila Graham, who described the experience in her book *Beloved Infidel*. 5. Aristotle. 6. Pembroke, Corpus Christi, Jesus, St John's and Trinity. 7. The University of St Andrews, founded in 1411. 8. It is a school for pickpockets. Its curriculum involves a mannequin with ten pockets in its clothing, on each of which a bell has been sewn. To graduate, the student must pick every pocket without ringing a bell. 9. Yale University, formerly the Collegiate School, changed its name in 1718 in honour of Elihu Yale, who had donated a gift of goods and books to the school. When sold, these brought £562 — the largest gift to the college before 1837. Although Yale died a rich man, he left nothing in his estate to the college which had honoured him. Elihu Yale is buried in Wrexham, Wales.

Analogies

1. ACUTE is to CHRONIC as TEMPORARY is to (A) sardonic (B) tonic (C) persistent (D) pretty (E) sick

2. GUN is to HOLSTER as SWORD is to (A) pistol (B) scabbard (C) warrior (D) slay (E) plunder

3. CAMPHOR is to AROMATIC as LILAC is to (A) lavender (B) flower (C) fragrant (D) rose (E) sentimental

4. CONDONE: OFFENSE:: (A) punish: criminal (B) mitigate: penitence (C) overlook: aberration (D) mistake: judgment (E) ignore: loyalty

5. PROTOPLASM: CELL:: (A) chain: link (B) fibre: plastic (C) coin: money (D) chemistry: elements (E) food: wheat

6. CORRUGATED: STRIPED:: (A) box: zebra (B) paint: crayon (C) roughness: smoothness (D) pit: dot

Closet

I like to pretend

the raincoat sleeves are the leaves.

I like to pretend

the slippery boots are the roots.

I like to pretend

the old fur coat is my friend, the brown bear,

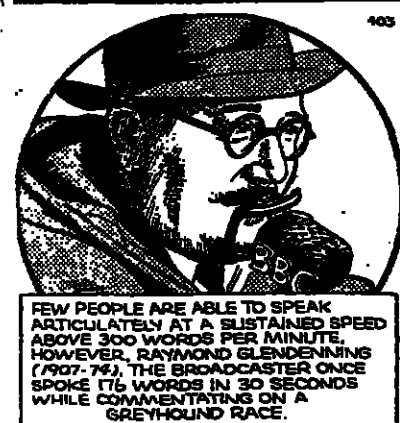
who lets me hide in her lair.

Judith Thurman

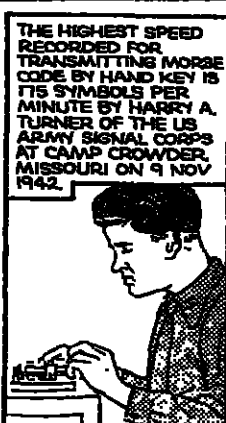
Poetry Corner



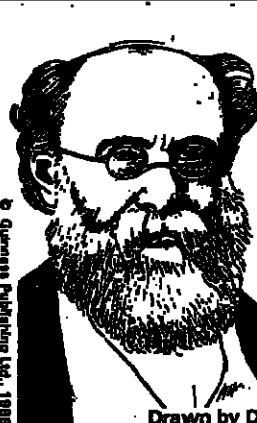
Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS



FEW PEOPLE ARE ABLE TO SPEAK ARTICULATEDLY AT A SUSTAINED SPEED ABOVE 300 WORDS PER MINUTE. HOWEVER, RAYMOND GIBSON (1907-79), THE BROADCASTER ONCE SPOKE 116 WORDS IN 30 SECONDS WHILE COMMENTATING ON A GREYHOUND RACE.



THE HIGHEST SPEED RECORDED FOR TRANSMITTING MORSE CODE BY HAND KEY IS ITS SYMBOLS PER MINUTE BY HARRY A. TURNER OF THE US ARMY SIGNAL CORPS AT CAMP CROWDER, MISSOURI ON 9 NOV 1942.



THE FASTEST RATE OF WRITING IMAGINATIVE COMPOSITION (AS OPPOSED TO COMPOSING EXISTING TEXT) APPEARS TO BE THAT ATTAINED BY NOVELIST ANTHONY TROLLOPE (1815-82) WHO WOULD WRITE FROM 5.30 AM UNTIL BREAKFAST AT 10.00 WORDS PER HOUR. HE WENT OFF TO WORK AT THE POST OFFICE.



ROMANTIC NOVELIST CHARLOTTE LAMB REVEALED ON A BBC DESERT ISLAND DISCS PROGRAMME (20 JUL 1985) THAT SHE HAD READ 'WAR AND PEACE' IN 3 HOURS, WHICH MUST BE A RECORD.

Math puzzles

Answers to Tuesday's puzzles.

● Since light travels 186,000 miles per second, it took almost no time at all to travel the short distance between Bali and Marty. So we can assume that Marty saw each swing of the hammer at the time that Bali made it. However, he didn't hear the bang of the swing until after Bali made the swing, because he didn't hear the sound until after it travelled the distance between him and Bali. To figure out what this distance was, we observe:

1. Bali hit a nail 30 times every minute. There are 60 seconds in a minute. So Bali hit a nail every two seconds. Thus there are two seconds between each swing of the hammer and the swing just before it.

2. The last bang Marty heard was the bang of the last swing. When he saw the last swing of the hammer, it was accompanied by a bang. That bang was the bang before the last, so it was the sound of the swing before the last. Each swing was separated from the one before it by two seconds. So it was two seconds. So it was two seconds between the time Marty saw the last swing and the time when he heard its bang. This means that it took the sound of the bang two seconds to travel from Bali to him. At the rate of 1,100 feet per second, the sound travelled 2,200 feet in two seconds. So the distance from Bali to Marty was 2,200 feet.

● The answer to this problem is the same no matter what the distance is between Montgomery and Shaftsbury. Let us say that the distance between the two towns is 120 miles. Then the round trip would be a total distance of 240 miles. If the average speed of the round trip is to be 60 miles per hour, then it should take 4 hours for the bus to make the entire trip. But, if the 120 miles from Montgomery to Shaftsbury are travelled at an average speed of 30 miles per hour, then

this trip alone uses up the entire 4 hours, and there is no time left for the bus to make the return trip. Therefore, the bus would have to make the return trip from Shaftsbury to Montgomery in no time at all, which of course, is impossible. There is no speed for the return trip that can make the average speed for the round trip 60 miles per hour.

● When Amy reached the first sign, 40 minutes after she had left Branford, she had already gone "half as far as it was from there to Guilford." The distance from there to Guilford was double the distance she had already travelled and would take double the time she had already travelled. Therefore, hiking at her own steady pace, from the first sign to Guilford, took Amy another 80 minutes. Therefore it took Amy 120 minutes, or 2 hours, to hike from Branford to Guilford along the Hammonasset Trail.

When Amy reached the second sign, she was 11 miles from the first sign. And the distance from the second sign to Madison was "half as far as it was from there to Guilford." Thus, when Amy reached the second sign, she had already passed Guilford and had hiked 2/3 of the distance from Guilford to Madison. Therefore, since the remaining 1/3 of the distance between Guilford and Madison took Amy 1 hour, then the total time that it took for her to hike from Guilford to Madison at her own steady pace was 3 hours.

Thus, the total time that it took for Amy to hike from Branford to Madison along the Hammonasset Trail was 2 hours + 3 hours = 5 hours = 300 minutes.

Forty minutes of this time was before she reached the first sign, and 60 minutes of this time was after she passed the second sign. So Amy hiked the 11-mile stretch between the two signs in 300 minutes — 100 minutes = 200 minutes. Thus hiking at the same steady pace, the other 100-minute part of the trek must have covered 5 1/2 miles of trail. Therefore the total distance that Amy hiked along the Hammonasset Trail, — from Branford to Madison, was 11 miles + 5 1/2 miles, or 16 1/2 miles.

It's a steal

The illusion:

YOUR hostess loans you an empty candy dish which you set in front of you. A napkin is shaken out and proven to be absolutely empty. The corners of the cloth are gathered up, the dish thrust up into the folds, and when you remove it candy or nuts fill it to overflowing!

The preparation:

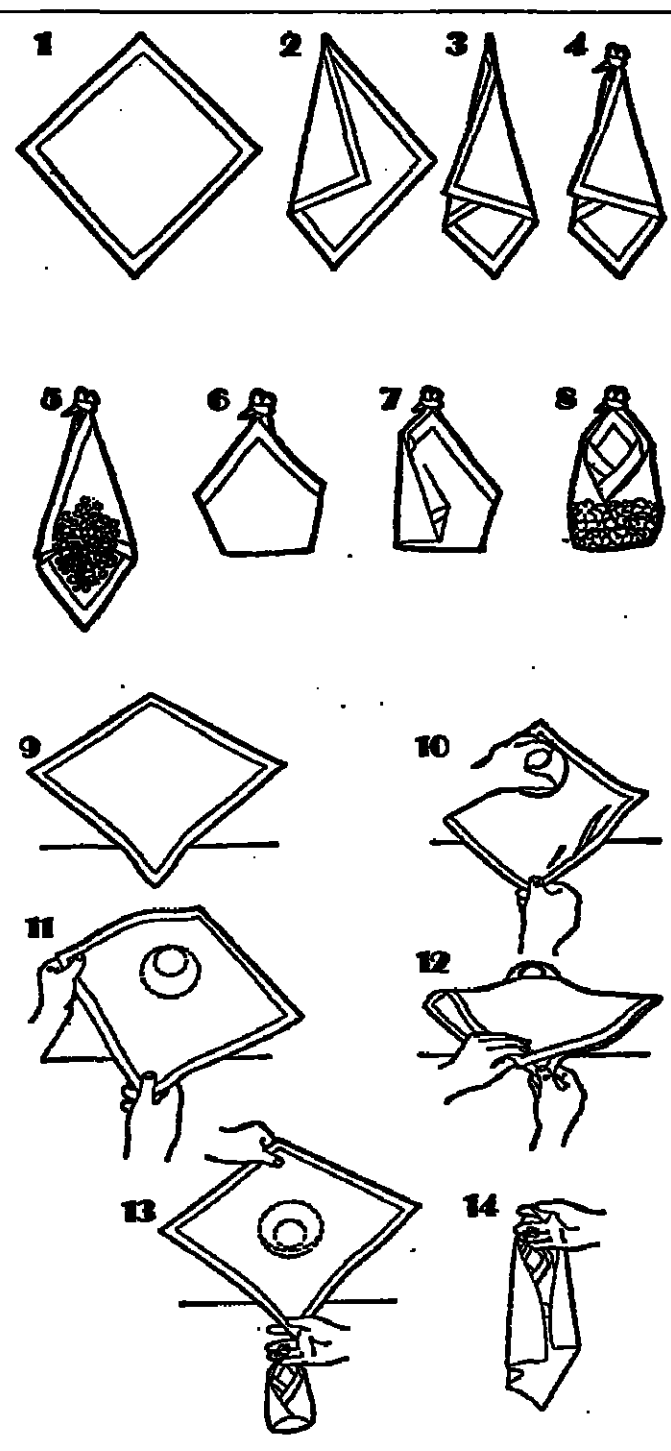
A second napkin is needed, one that you prepared ahead of time and smuggled in to your place at the table. (It can be inside your jacket, in your purse, or preset under the table at your chair.) Follow the folding diagrams and after you've tied the knot (4), put a quantity of nuts or candy inside the bag, pushing it all the way to the top. Now bring up the bottom corner, fold the left side past the centre, and bring the right corner over to lock inside the left one, as (8). Finally, shake the goodies down into the bottom of the bag. The pressure of your load inside should keep your "load bag" locked shut.

The trick:

GET the load bag into your lap, with the knot upward and just below the edge of the table, at least a minute before you ask for an empty dish. Spread another napkin flat in front of you with one corner toward you (9). Place the dish upside down on top of it. Put your left hand on top of the dish and pull the napkin out from under it, pulling the cloth straight to you until it is almost free of the dish and then pulling it upwards (10). This time, cover the dish with the napkin, and hold the corner closest to you (11). Lift the opposite corner of the napkin with your left hand and bring it back to the corner you're holding (12). Turn the dish rightside up as your right middle two fingers take hold of the knot of the load bag in your lap. As soon as you have the bag securely between them your left hand replaces the outer corner of the napkin, covering the dish (13).

Now use the same move you did when you pulled the napkin out from under the bowl. Only this time you are bringing the load bag up behind the napkin at the same time. The attention of the audience will be on the bowl in front of you as the folds of the napkin fall around the load bag and hide it. (14). Your left hand picks up the dish, takes it underneath, inside the folds of the napkin, and you shake the napkin and the load bag at the same time. It should open the folds of the load bag so the contents spill down into the dish. If not, put the dish on the table, free the folds with the left hand, and then reveal the goodies. Wouldn't it be great if they were emeralds?

After you pass the dish down the table you will find it very easy to untie the knot so when you leave the table both napkins can be dropped on others to destroy the evidence.



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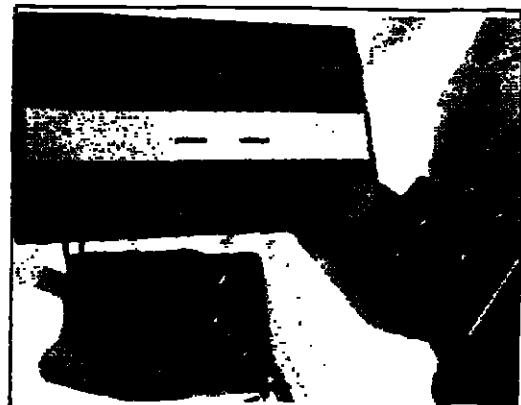
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SPORTS BRIEFS

Three in final for award

NEW YORK, Feb 10, (AP): Sprinter Ben Johnson of Canada, heptathlete Jackie Joyner-Kersey of the United States and figure skater Katarina Witt of East Germany are the three remaining finalists for the 1988 Jesse Owens International Trophy Award, it was announced today.

The winner, selected by a worldwide panel of electors from North America, Europe, Asia, South America, Central America, Africa and the Caribbean, will be announced on Feb 23.

Johnson to resume racing

BRUSSELS, Feb 10, (Reuter): World 100 metres champion Ben Johnson is set to resume racing after straining a thigh muscle last Friday, the organisers of a Ghent indoor meeting said yesterday.

They said Johnson had travelled to Genoa, Italy, where he is due to compete on Saturday. He is also entered for the 60 metres in Ghent four days later.

Rugby squad

EDINBURGH, Feb 10, (Reuter): Scotland, emphatic 23-12 victory over title holders France at Saturday, have named an unchanged side for their next Five Nations Rugby Union clash with Wales in Cardiff on February 20.

After the rediscovery of their form against France, Scotland will be reasonably optimistic of doing well in Cardiff where they have had some close games in recent visits.

Cruyff accepts offer

BARCELONA, Spain, Feb 10, (Reuter): Former Dutch soccer star Johan Cruyff has accepted an offer to coach ailing Barcelona, a Catalan newspaper said today, but the club would not confirm the report.

"At the moment, these are just rumours," Barcelona vice-president Nicolas Casaus told Reuters.

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S. Korea snatches President's Cup

JAKARTA, Feb 10, (Reuter): South Korea boxers last night snatched the team championship at the President's Cup amateur boxing tournament from defending champions the Soviet Union.

All three Korean finalists won their bouts, putting their country ahead of the 11 other competing nations. Australia, Algeria, Canada and Indonesia won two golds each.

The Soviet Union had five finalists but took only one gold medal, when heavyweight Artam Ter-Akopyan beat Canada's Dominic D'Amico on points.

"The Koreans came with better boxers this time. They really shattered the dreams of the Soviet team who have won six times over the past 12 years," said Indonesian sports commentator and former boxer Syamsui Harahap.

South Korean light-flyweight Cho Dong-Bum took the first gold medal for his country, beating Philippine challenger Andre Tobanas on points.

Cho knocked Tobanas down in the second round but the Philippine boxer got up to continue the fight, although he was unsteady in his feet.

The other two South Korean gold medalists, Kim Yong-Sang and Seo Yung-Sho, had easy wins in the flyweight and bantam weight categories.

Beat

Kim beat Tussupov Talgat of the Soviet Union on points and Seo defeated Australia's Marcus Prieux in the second round when the referee stopped the match because of a bad cut in Prieux's mouth.

A total of 119 boxers took part in the tournament.

W.German wins freestyle event

BERLIN, Feb 10, (AP): West Germany's Stefan Pfeiffer won the 1,500-metre freestyle event at the Nok international swimming competition in East Berlin yesterday with a time of 15 minutes, 17.52 seconds.

The West German also won the 400-metre freestyle, clocking a time of 3 minutes, 53.25 seconds.

Joerg Hoffmann of East Germany placed second in the 1,500-metre freestyle with a time of 15:18.33, while teammate Steffen Liess came in third at 15:41.65.

In the 400-metre freestyle, Liess placed second by swimming the course in 3:54.32.

East Germany's Thomas Dressler won the 100-metre butterfly event in 55.45 seconds, followed by Pablo Morales of the United States and West Germany's Martin Herrmann with identical times of 55.49 seconds.

Tyson to defend title outside US

NEW YORK, Feb 10, (AP): Mike Tyson says he is looking forward to his first fight outside the United States and expects the result to mirror his past matches.

"I'm the best heavyweight in the world and nobody can beat me," said Tyson, who will defend the undisputed championship on March 21 at Tokyo against Tony Tubbs.

Fielding questions from sports writers in New York and Tokyo during a satellite news conference last night, the 21-year-old champion said, "I like getting paid and it's fun being rich, but I'd give it all away just for a win."

Co-star

Tubbs also was on hand, but the co-star of the news conference was Tyson's new bride, television actress Robin Givens.

They were married yesterday. "I think he's a wonderful fighter," said Givens, who saw Tyson fight as an amateur. "I know he's a great fighter."

Another featured player was Fighting Harada, a former world



Tyson and actress Robin Givens exchange wedding vows at the municipal building in New York on Tuesday.

bantamweight and featherweight champion, who was in the audience in Tokyo.

"I'd like to acknowledge a great champion of your country Fighting Harada," Tyson said. "I'm a great admirer of his."

When questioned from Tokyo about Harada, Tyson said, "I watched him (on film) in a fight with the legendary Eder Jofre of Brazil. I admired his non-stop style. He was a very disciplined fighter."

Taiwan's skiers practise on grass

CALGARY, Alberta, Feb 10, (AP): Taiwan's skiers practise on grass, its bobsleds train in Austria and its figure skaters live in the United States, but being a subtropical island doesn't stop it from competing in the Winter Olympics.

The 13-athlete Taiwan delegation was officially welcomed into the Olympic village in ceremonies yesterday, but its skiers have been in the area for more than a

month, seizing a chance to practice on snow.

Taiwan has a ski slope at home, on Mount Hobuan, but snow comes only in January and February.

"On the other hand, it has 25 courses for skiing downhill on grass, and a busy Sunday may find more than 10,000 people out trying grass skis, which run on caterpillar-like treads, said Chen Yun-Ming, secretary-general of Taiwan's Ski Association.

"Skiing on grass is 75 per cent the same as skiing on snow," Chen said. The main difference is that speeds are slower, although grass skiers can reach speeds of 60-70 kilometres (38-44 miles) an hour, he added.

Ong Ching-Ming, a member of the Taiwan ski team in the Winter Olympics, is Taiwan's

grass-skiing champion and placed 11th in the last world championships — the fifth held so far.

"If you can ski on snow, you can ski on grass," Chen said. "The lack of snow is very inconvenient for us, so we use grass-skiing as a substitute."

"We have lots of mountains, it's very cheap, and you can do it all year round," he added.

For snow training, Taiwan skiers also go to northern Japan and the United States, said M.H. Tang, head of the Taiwan delegation.

Among the five Taiwan skiers here, Tang Wei-Tsu, 23, is the only one who has not trained on grass. He is a graduate student at the University of Utah, and does his skiing in Utah and nearby states.

MERSEYSIDE TEAM TO FACE LIVERPOOL

Mowbray's own goal sends Everton through

LONDON, Feb 10, (Reuter): Tony Mowbray, Middlesbrough's saviour a week ago, gifted Everton the glittering prize of a home English FA Cup fifth round tie against Merseyside rivals Liverpool with a freak 82nd minute own goal at storm-lashed Goodison Park yesterday.

It was a bizarre end for the gallant Second Division side, who had earlier dragged themselves back on level terms for the third time in the three-match series when Stuart Ripley cancelled out Graeme Sharp's 19th goal of the season.

Dragged Just when Everton were preparing themselves to be dragged into yet another bout of extra time, the Middlesbrough captain, scorer of their dramatic injury-time equaliser in the first replay, stuck out a boot to whack Gary Stevens' low cross past his despairing goalkeeper Stephen Pears to give Everton a 2-1 win.

The fierce gales which had battered Britain all day were bad enough to have warranted a postponement. But such was replay-prone Everton's pressing need to conclude the latest chapter of their FA saga that the players were sent out to chase such an important prize in farcical conditions.

Forced

Players were forced to hold the ball American-style at free kicks, and Middlesbrough, having gambled on facing the worst of the wind in the first half, were under as much threat from Everton goalkeeper Neville Southall's bombing clearances as the home forwards.

Sharp and Adrian Heath both wasted early opportunities before Sharp scored in the 18th minute. He placed a low shot past Pears after Peter Reid had taken advantage of a mistake by Gary Parkinson.

Fought back Middlesbrough fought back well after the break and equalised in the 64th minute when Ripley turned home Paul Kerr's left-wing cross from close range.

Everton created an FA Cup record by becoming the first Division One club since World War Two to need seven matches to reach the fifth round. They beat Sheffield Wednesday at the fourth attempt in round three.



Stevens

N.Korea to give final answer next month

TOKYO, Feb 10, (Reuter): International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Juan Antonio Samaranch said Pyongyang would give a final answer on participating in the Seoul Olympics next month, Yomiuri Shimbun reported today.

Samaranch, interviewed by the Japanese newspaper at the Calgary Winter Olympics, said North Korean Olympic Committee chairman Kim Yu-Sun told him he would negotiate with South Korea later this month and promised a final answer next month.

Pyeongyang announced, before the January 17 deadline set for countries to indicate whether they would participate, that they would boycott the games unless they were shared between Pyongyang and Seoul. It also said it would continue to negotiate with South Korea.

Tension between the two countries has increased since Seoul accused Pyongyang of planting a bomb on a South Korean airliner in November, killing all 115 people on board.

In Seoul, a Sports Ministry spokesman said today South Korea could not agree to any Olympic talks not involving the IOC.

IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch chaired four rounds of talks in an attempt to resolve the bitter North-South dispute before making Pyongyang a "take-it-or-leave-it" offer to stage some of the 1988 summer games events.

"Our position is that any further Olympic talks without involving the IOC are meaningless," the spokesman in Seoul said.

"The door is still open for North Korea to take part in the games. And we are still willing to give the North the games events included in the IOC package," he added.

Johnson, 14, is the youngest competitor

CALGARY, Feb 10, (Reuter): At 14, Seba Johnson is the youngest skier at the Winter Olympics, the first black female ever to take part in the Alpine events at the Games and the only competitor without a proper pair of skis.

Waxed

While the pampered stars of the Swiss and Austrian teams choose from the very best equipment on offer and have their skis carefully prepared and waxed by their own servicemen, Johnson is planning to borrow a decent pair.

Then, as sole member of the American Virgin Islands Alpine team, she will have to wax them herself.

Though Johnson cannot hope to compete on equal terms, her participation in the 1988 Games is more than a mere flight of fantasy.

"Her aim here is just to finish," her mother Suzanne Johnson told Reuters. "She wants to get

experience so that she can become Olympic champion in four years time."

Johnson has been mad about skiing ever since her mother took her on a trip to New England when she was seven years old. She saw a junior race and was instantly hooked.

Recalls

Mrs Johnson still recalls her words — "Mum, I want to be a ski racer. Please help me." Though mum was far from an avid skier herself, there was no going back from then on.

But the road to Calgary has been paved with setbacks and sacrifices. A painter with no steady income, Mrs Johnson simply lacked the finances to spawn a superstar in what is an expensive sport.

Equipment had to be begged or borrowed, savings had to be made to pay for training on slopes all over the United States.

"She took to skiing straight

away, she was a natural," her mother said. "She's done really well. She borrowed equipment and skied on the same pair of skis for years. She went into small races and started winning them so we put her in bigger ones."

Prompted

Mrs Johnson comes from New Hampshire but Seba was born in St Croix in the Virgin Islands and her background prompted the idea of taking part in the Olympics for her country of birth.

"We contacted the Virgin Islands who were just forming an Olympic team for the first time so they accepted," she said. The problem always was money. "We had to agree to fund it ourselves."

The highlight of Seba's brief career came in Calgary on Sunday when she was allowed to train with the powerful Swiss team which swept all five gold medals at last year's world championships.

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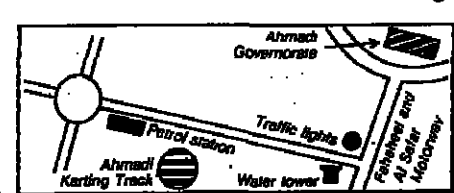
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SPORTS

Buck Sands beat Hunting and Equestrian

BUCK Sands romped over Hunting & Equestrian by a score of 12 to 6 last Friday when they hosted the second leg of this annual friendly inter club meeting between golf clubs in Kuwait.

Having lost the first leg at H&E last December by a score of 10 to 7, BS played with extreme vigour and determination taking full advantage of local course knowledge to handily outscore the visitors and finish overall winners of the 1987-1988 season by a score of 19 to 16 matches.

Although conditions were ideal, prevailing swirling winds combined with the length of the course and difficulty of the rough made scoring hard for the visitors. However, the visitors were able to salvage some honours when the ever improving Mrs Sigrid Sawires (21) outdrove all lady competitors on the monster 606 yards sixth hole to secure the longest drive prize for H&E.

Meanwhile, Peter Benham (13) H&E won the men's longest drive on the 14th hole when he drove 270 yards down the fairway to edge R. Myers (6) BS by one yard. While Mrs. V. Hedenstrom claiming the nearest to pin prize for H&E at the short 118 yard 13th hole.

Other winners, all from Buck Sands, were 16 year old Troy Bradbury (9) winning the longest drive on hole No.5 when he outdrove Gentle Giant Kevin Long (4). Jamal Bazzari (15) won nearest the pin on hole No.3 and L. Hovey (29) winning nearest the pin on hole No.15.

Mini rugby

FRIDAY'S training session attracted a large crowd of both players and spectators. The forthcoming Bahrain tour has generated more than the usual interest as Kuwait will be hoping to make it 'four in a row' straight victories with virtually a new squad of players.

Captains for the planned tour were also announced alongside confirmation that the touring group will number 95.

KMMC are co-ordinating both travel and hotel arrangements. The visiting Bahraini senior side who were beaten by Kuwait let it slip that their junior counterparts have been putting in extra practice. Organisers McAree and Bennett alongside the coaching staff hope to counteract this and are quietly confident that they can match the extra application being exerted by their Bahraini counterparts.

A keen sporting contest is envisaged. The following boys were elected captains for the tour: Damian McAree — seniors, Michael Swanwick — middle group and Graham Crosby will be in charge of the Mini Group.

Hawks beat Philadelphia 76ers

ATLANTA, Feb 10, (AP): Dominique Wilkins scored 49 points, including a tiebreaking layup with two seconds remaining, and the Atlanta Hawks beat Philadelphia 76ers 112-110 last night. 76ers coach Jim Lynam's debut.

Charles Barkley scored a career-high 47 points for Philadelphia, but had his 3-point try hit the rim at the buzzer. The 76ers have lost 11 straight on the road and eight of 10 games overall.

Other results		
D. Mavericks	124	Utah Jazz 93
Pistons	126	N.J. Nets 117
Rockets	129	Chicago Bulls 74
M. Bucks	112	C. Cavaliers 104
D. Nuggets	136	Spurs 108
P. Suns	106	Cippers 100
Warriors	117	Kings 99
Trail Blazers	139	Supersonics 123

BIN SULAYEM AND AL HAJRI ARE FAVOURITES

Qatar International Rally begins today

DOHA: Twenty six teams from the Middle East and Europe start today's Qatar International Rally.

Favourites to win this 800 km long event will be Marlboro driver Mohammad Bin Sulayem, the Middle East Rally champion, who also won the manufacturers' title for the Toyota team Middle East in 1987 and Rothmans ace Saeed Al Hajri of Qatar.

The Dubai sports star has a remarkable record of four consecutive wins in the 1987 series (Jordan, Lebanon, Oman and Dubai) and hopes for a fifth win in Qatar.

"To win this event would mean a lot to me. Qatar is the only rally I have not yet won" explained the 26-year-old champion.

In straight rally terms, the main opponents of Bin Sulayem

in his Marlboro-BP backed Toyota Celica Turbo, are expected to be Al Hajri in his Audi Quattro, and 1987 Lebanese champion Michel Saleh, who will also drive a four-wheel-drive Audi Quattro.

Well prepared
"I am very well prepared, and I will do all my best to win here, in Qatar" commented Saleh.

Sulayem is seeded number one in his team Toyota Middle East Celica Turbo, co-driven this year by Ronan Morgan from Ireland. Al Hajri also has high hopes of claiming the 15th international victory of his career in Qatar over the next two days.

But Al Hajri, champion in 1984 and 1985, is confident that his new Rothmans Audi Quattro can help him take an early advantage as he attempts to snatch the title away from the Toyota star.

Approaching the end of his preparations for the 850-km event, the Qataris said: "If the car keeps running well, I think I can win this rally. It is very quick, very strong and more powerful than the Rothmans Porsche I have been driving for the past four years."

Al Hajri's optimism is shared by his new British co-driver, Steve Bond, whose main problem in practice has been adapting to the unfamiliar desert terrain around Doha, and the pace of Middle East rallying.

The rally starts at 12.00 today from the Doha corniche. Drivers return to the Ramada Hotel in Doha at 23.30 for an overnight halt, then re-start at 10.00 on Friday finishing at 16.00 back at the Ramada after a total route of 800 kms, which includes 400 kms of special stages.



Bin Sulayem



Al Hajri

Navratilova trounces Benjamin

DALLAS, Feb 10, (UPI): Top seed Martina Navratilova trounced Camille Benjamin and Mary Lou Daniels upset fifth seed Lori McNeil last night in the opening round of the Virginia Slims of Dallas.

Navratilova needed only 40 minutes to overpower Benjamin 6-0, 6-1. Daniels, of Chicago, recorded the day's only upset, 6-2, 6-4, over McNeil.

Navratilova, now coached by Tim Gullikson, said she is "working to win everything," this year.

"The French (Open), I haven't won in a while there," she said. "But there is the (US) Open and Wimbledon. I want to keep working on my game and keep winning."

Next

Navratilova will next face Larisa Savchenko of the Soviet Union, who opened with a 6-2, 6-1 victory over Elise Burgin of Baltimore.

Second seed Pam Shriver blanked Sandy Collins. Collins, who lost in the qualifying rounds of the tournament, was a last-minute replacement for Ann Henricksson, who had to withdraw after contracting a stomach virus.

Shriver will next face Marianne Werdel, who defeated



Navratilova: top seed

Kathleen Horvath 6-4, 6-1.

"I'm looking forward to playing Werdel, who defeated Kathleen Horvath 6-4, 6-1."

"I'm looking forward to playing Werdel," Shriver said. "The last time we played, she had me 7-6 in the third (set). With my match today, I'll be fresh to play her."

No. 4 seed Zina Garrison earned a 6-3, 6-3 victory over Beverly Bowes and said she "had to do a lot of running."

"I've been working on my

physical ability, and it worked pretty well," Garrison said. "It's good to get the first win in."

Struggled

Garrison next plays Maria Lindstrom of Sweden, who struggled past Barbara Gerkin 5-7, 6-2, 6-3.

In doubles, Bowes and Horvath beat sisters Katrina and Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria, 2-6, 6-2, 6-2. Also, Savchenko and Natalia Zvereva of the Soviet Union beat Joanne Russell and Wendy White 6-2, 6-3.

Dyke defeats Benhabiles

Goldie ousts Sanchez

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands, Feb 10, (AP): Unseeded American Dan Goldie yesterday ousted Emilio Sanchez, the number four seed from Spain, in the first-round of the 1988 Nabisco Grand Prix tennis tournament.

Goldie's surprise 7-5, 6-4 victory means he will face unseeded Dutchman Michiel Schapers in second-round play later this week.

Edged

In other action of the second day of first-round play here, unseeded Czech Milan Srejber edged past his seventh-seeded compatriot Tomas Smid 7-6, 6-3.

Meanwhile, fifth-seeded Henri Leconte of France trounced Stanislas Birner of Czechoslovakia 6-3 6-2 and Jonas

Flying Arrows crush NBK

A REJUVENATED Flying Arrows thrashed National Bank of Kuwait by 138 runs at the Ahmadi grounds on Friday, in the Jashannal League Trophy.

Captain Alex Rego won the toss and decided to bat first, which proved to be very fruitful as Flying Arrows amassed 224 runs for the loss of 4 wickets in 30 overs. In the first 4 overs NBK bowlers Sajid and Najam tied down the opening pair of Imdad Ali and Verold Sirur, which also got them the former's wicket. Derick Almeida joined Verold and the pair started opening out, pushing the average from 3 to 5 per over. Derick was out to a beautiful catch at mid-wicket having scored 20 runs. At this point FACC were 47 for the loss of 2 wickets.

Salim Busheiri joined Verold and gave an exhibition of some powerful drives and elegant cuts, to top score with 64 runs and had two very good partnerships. In the first one Verold was out stumped for a well made 49 runs with 1 six and 5 fours.

The second partnership with Mukesh Mirchandani, yielded 82 runs. Mukesh who is in consistent form scored a superb 60 not out which included 6 boundaries. Salim was out next, at the score of 174 runs and this knock of 64 included 8 boundaries.

Francis Pereira once again displayed some elegant shots to produce a fiery 23 not out. Main wicket-takers for NBK were Sajid Raza (2), Ejaz (1) and Afzal (1).

NBK's bowling in openers Sajid and Jerry to the benefit of Derick Almeida and Mohammed Iqbal and both bowlers delivered some very fine deliveries. Iqbal in particular produced "the Ball of the Match", when he uprooted Sajid's stumps with a beautiful yorker. Derick, although he wavered in line in the initial overs, bowled a good spell of 8 overs giving away 34 runs and capturing 4 wickets.

Captain Rego put in Vijay Samuel to replace Iqbal and he was in his element, bowling an immaculate line and length, which kept the batsmen guessing. He was unlucky not to get wickets, but had great bowling figures of 15 runs in six overs with



Salim Busheiri

two of them being maidens. Norbert D'Souza replaced Derick at the other end and bowled excellently to return with figures of 3 for 12 runs.

Benjamin Lobo was brought in when Vijay was called off and he too bowled to capture a wicket giving one run in one over. NBK were all out in the 25th over for 86 runs. The only batsman to reach double figures was Ejaz, who scored 28 runs.

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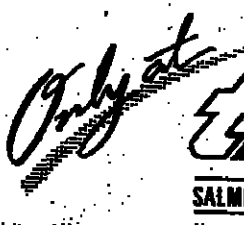


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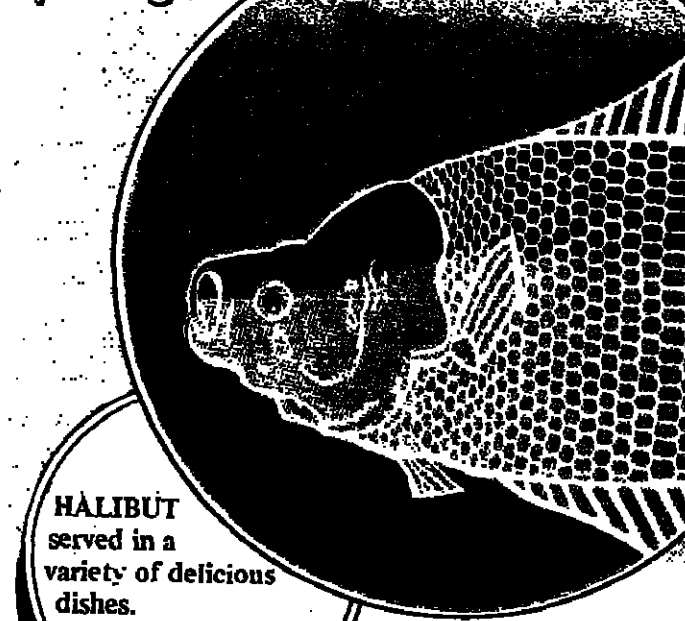
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